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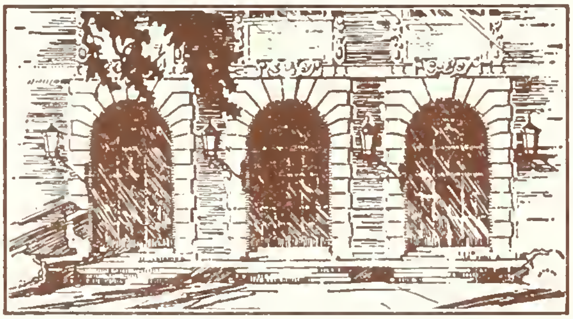

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Farm News

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 7, 1952

Swine Herd Improvement Group Meets January 17

Fifth annual meeting of the Illinois Swine Herd Improvement Association has been scheduled for Thursday, January 17, 1952, in the Farm Bureau auditorium at Ottawa, LaSalle county.

Harold Parrett, Mahomet, Champaign county farmer who is doing production testing, and Dr. P. D. Beamer, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, Urbana, will be the speakers at the afternoon session.

Most of the morning session which begins at 10 a.m. will be devoted to a business meeting of the association conducted by two delegates from each local association, committee reports and election of directors for next year.

The Illinois Swine Herd Improvement association was organized in 1947 to tie together and standardize the records of the local swine herd improvement groups that were springing up all over the state. The spring farrowing summary for 1947 listed 401 litters tested with a total of 2,524 pigs weighed. In 1951 1,710 litters were tested and 11,258 pigs weighed.

Production testing of swine consists of weighing all pigs at 56 days of age. Selection for future breeding stock is based on the heaviest litter weight, since several experiments have shown a close correlation between weaning and market weights of pigs.

This year 19 local associations with a total of 221 memberships enrolled in the state association.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 7, 1952

Education, Entertainment for All at Farm and Home Week

Farm and Home Week, January 28 through 31 at the Illinois College of Agriculture, features something educational and something entertaining for everyone, reports program chairman G. L. Jordan.

You can hear from Viva Moody, Whiteside county, and Rosemary Archibald, Will county, who spent 4 months this summer living on several European farms as International Farm Youth Exchange Delegates. Or you can listen to a discussion by agricultural economists and farmers on "Illinois Agriculture--1955 Model."

Half-day sessions are scheduled on tractor selection and care, latest information for swine, poultry, sheep, and beef raisers, raising dairy calves, and a review of a few agronomy research tests.

Two half-day periods are devoted to legume-grass crops, with three farmers explaining their legume-grass program on their livestock, dairy, and grain farms, plus other grassland farming topics.

"What's Needed in Soybean Grades" and "Working Into the Farm Business" are two other subjects.

For the women, 13 special classes are scheduled as a new type of program this year.

Entertainment includes such things as Open House in the Illini Union, Music and Drama Festival, various banquets, Winter Festival, and other events.

Jordan says you'll have no housing problem since plenty of rooms are available in University dormitories and private homes at $2 to $3 per night.

For an educational, mid-winter vacation, you'll surely want to attend Farm and Home Week, January 28-31, in Urbana.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 7, 1952

Treated Fence Posts Should Last 15 Years

Tests at the Illinois College of Agriculture indicate that you can get 15 or more years of good use out of home grown fence posts if you treat them properly with chemical preservative.

W. L. Meek, forest products utilization specialist at the College, reports that more than 90 percent of about 1,200 posts set in fence lines in the test were found sound after the annual inspection in 1951.

Some of these posts have been in the ground since 1942 when the tests were started. Meek says apparently there is no reason why they will not be good for several more years in the ground.

Keeping up fences may be one of your major problems. More than 20 million wooden fence posts are used in Illinois every year. You may have a source of fence posts on your own farm, but much of this wood is not durable if you put it right in the ground.

Preservatives used in the tests included pentachlorphenol, or penta, copper naphthenate, and a 100-SS salt solution. Most of the posts were treated by the cold-soak method which is easiest for you to use on your own farm. Test fence lines are located at Sinnissippi Forest near Oregon in Ogle county, and at Dixon Springs Experiment Station in Pope county.

At Sinnissippi, half of the hardwood and three-fourths of the softwood posts not treated had failed after 4½ years in the ground. Only 4 treated hardwoods out of 368 failed and only 3 out of 582 softwood treated posts have failed. Results were about the same at Dixon Springs.

Ask your county farm adviser for Circular 636, "Preserve Your Posts With Penta," or F114, "Treating Fence Posts on the Farm With Creosote" or write to the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for more information on treating fence posts.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 7, 1952

New Calf Starter Gives Excellent Results

A new, low-cost, simplified calf starter suitable for farm mixing has been giving excellent results with about 60 calves in tests at the Illinois College of Agriculture, reports dairyman K. E. Gardner.

The starter includes 50 percent ground yellow corn, 20 percent ground or crushed oats, 27 percent soybean oil meal, 1 percent salt, 1-1/2 percent steamed bone meal, and 2/10ths of 1 percent of a dry, powdered vitamin A and D supplement.

Average growth rates were above normal and compared closely with 20 control calves receiving a starter containing dried skim milk and a wide variety of other feeds.

The calves first received the starter at two weeks of age and were carried to four months of age. They received it free-choice up to 4-1/2 pounds daily, with good-quality alfalfa hay free-choice.

Gardner points out that the calves were limited to a total of about 350 pounds of whole milk fed over an 8- to 10-week period. By cutting down on whole milk, cost of calf feed is reduced greatly.

The dry vitamin supplement provided 4,000 units of vitamin A and 800 of vitamin D in each pound of starter. The powder is easy to mix into the starter with other ingredients. You can probably get some at poultry feed stores.

Gardner says this test will end sometime this spring and a more complete, detailed report will be made then.

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for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 14, 1952

Best Cows Most Likely to Have Ketosis

Ketosis may strike any cow in your dairy herd, but the most likely victims are your best cows that have calved recently, points out Dr. R. D. Hatch, veterinarian at the University of Illinois.

If the disease strikes, the milk loss may amount to 1-1/2 gallons or more a day. In severe cases cows may die during an attack unless treated early. Cows with mild cases may recover without treatment.

Ketosis strikes most often soon after calving, when the milk flow is heavy, Dr. Hatch says. The milk supply falls off and the cow loses her appetite. Most cows seem sleepy and are wobbly. Some are excitable and hard to manage.

To prevent ketosis, feed an adequate, well-balanced ration during the dry period so that the cow will be in good condition at calving time. After she has calved, provide her with a high-carbohydrate ration by feeding either molasses or plenty of corn and other grains.

Be careful if you feed molasses, Dr. Hatch warns. Too much of it may cause severe digestive disturbances. If this occurs, reduce the amount.

If you suspect that a cow has ketosis, call your veterinarian immediately. The animal may not recover unless she gets prompt attention.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 14, 1952

Rid Your Dairy Herd of Brucellosis

You'll need a magician to help you if you delay starting to rid your dairy herd of brucellosis. After January 1, 1955, Grade A milk must come from brucellosis-free cows.

Dr. G. T. Woods, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says that in some dairy herds it will take several years to raise replacements for cows that should be marketed. That's why eradication programs should be started now.

If you have a clean herd, take every possible step to keep it that way. But if you have an infected herd, see your veterinarian about starting an eradication program. Two good plans are:

Plan A--Calfhood vaccination is optional. Bloodtest all cows and market the reactors for slaughter repeatedly until the herd has passed two negative tests given 30 to 60 days apart. Re-test all suspects in 30 to 60 days.

Plan B--Vaccinate all calves--Guernsey and Jersey calves between 4 and 6 months of age and all other breeds preferably at 6 months. Bloodtest all cows and replace reactors with vaccinated heifers which are negative to the blood test.

Dr. Woods says Plan A is the safest eradication plan because infected cows are removed from the herd. But if you use Plan B, isolate the reactors at calving time, and clean and disinfect the stall after calving. Burn or bury the afterbirth, and keep the cow away from the herd until all discharge has stopped.

If you buy replacements for your herd, the safest ones to get are tested, brucellosis-free, unbred heifers.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 14, 1952

Good Care Will Save Every Lamb

Highest producing flocks in the 1951 Illinois Sheep Production contest marketed as much as 160 pounds of lamb for each ewe bred.

U. S. Garrigus, head of the sheep division at the Illinois College of Agriculture, points out that profits in sheep depend on number and weight of animals sold. For that reason, through good management you will increase your profits by increasing the number of lambs sold for each ewe.

Garrigus says the first need of the ewe is to get plenty of good-quality roughages to eat after she comes off pasture. That means you should feed legume hay or grass silage alone or corn silage supplemented with protein and limestone. About a month before lambing, add grain to the ration. Grain supplement can be a mixture of corn and oats fed at the rate of ½ to 3/4 pound a ewe each day until lambing.

Especially important after lambing is to keep clean water available all the time, with the chill removed.

Separate the ewes that are close to lambing so that you can watch them more closely. After lambing, hurdle the ewe in a pen by herself until both she and her lamb have had a chance to get used to each other.

Visit the lambing quarters frequently during lambing, including nights and week ends, Garrigus suggests. You can usually save some lambs out of each crop simply by being handy when something goes wrong. If you aren't experienced, ask a neighbor who is experienced to help you, or call in a veterinarian to show you what to do.

Finally, after the ewes are running together with their lambs, double the feed they were getting before lambing. It is a good idea to provide a creep for the lambs in a nondrafty place with clean, dry bedding and the choicest feed in the rack.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 14, 1952

35 Years of Profit-Sharing Is Farm and Home Week Topic

A farm family with 35 years of profit-sharing experience covering two generations and seven persons will tell their story at Farm and Home Week, January 28-31, at the Illinois College of Agriculture, announces G. L. Jordan, program chairman.

Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Stevenson, LaSalle county farm folks, are scheduled for 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, January 30.

On their 240-acre livestock farm, Mr. Stevenson had a profit-sharing agreement with his sister for several years sometime ago. The agreement is being carried on now with his four children, one of whom is running the farm. The first agreement was started about 1914.

This is only one of about 300 talks, reports, demonstrations and discussions on all phases of farming and homemaking that will be included in the 51st Farm and Home Week program.

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Leading Authority to Discuss Spittlebugs

A leading authority on spittlebug control is one of the headline speakers at the 4th Custom Sprayers' Training School set for January 24-25 at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

The expert is C. R. Weaver, assistant entomologist at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station. According to program chairman H. B. Petty, Weaver has done some of the leading work in the country on methods to control spittlebugs. These pests threaten to become a major legume pest in Illinois next year.

Four other outside specialists are also scheduled: Oliver Lee, Purdue University, on brush control in Indiana; L. L. Coulter, Dow Chemical company, on methods of spraying brush; K. P. Buchholtz, University of Wisconsin, on spraying small grains with legume seedings; and L. M. Stahler, U. S. Department of Agriculture, on livestock poisoning from weeds sprayed with 2,4-D.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 14, 1952

Grant Funds to Study Tractor Valve Troubles

Tests on the causes and cures of tractor valve troubles will expand soon to more than 60 tractors being used in normal farm operation in Illinois.

This increase in farm tractor experiments results from a contract for payment of $22,570 during the next two years between the agricultural engineering department at the University of Illinois and the Northern Regional Research Laboratories of the U. S. Department of Agriculture at Peoria to conduct additional tractor valve trouble research.

George E. Pickard, who is in charge of power and machinery research in the agricultural engineering department and who will supervise the research, says tractor valve troubles have been increasing during the past few years. Some of the causes have been lead and gum in the fuel, lubricating oil quality and engine design.

The new studies will try to find out the relative importance of the known causes, to look for other causes, and to try out some of the remedies that have been suggested. Dean Hopkins, 1950 graduate of the agricultural engineering department, has been appointed research assistant to carry on the expansion of this project, which was started in 1948.

Here's how the test tractors will be divided: 20 farm tractors in the Champaign-Urbana area will be equipped to operate on "white" gasoline, with the alcohol-water injection devices to prevent

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knocking by this low octane fuel. Another 10 tractors will be equipped with exhaust valve rotators, in addition to the 10 that have already been on test with this device.

Twenty other tractors included as part of the research will be operated with the usual valves and average fuels to serve as a check on the results obtained on the test tractors.

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Charles Lewis Wins Special Sears Scholarship

Charles E. Lewis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dana Lewis of Hersman, Brown county, has been named the outstanding freshman winner of the scholarhips sponsored every year by Sears Roebuck and Company and has been awarded the special sophomore $200 Sears scholarship.

Charles is the seventh child in a family of nine children. Both his parents are graduates of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture. Except for two younger sisters, all members of the Lewis family have either graduated from or are now attending the University of Illinois.

This special sophomore award given to Lewis was one of 19 Sears Roebuck scholarships given this year in the College of Agriculture at the University of Illinois. Four of the awards went to freshman girls studying home economics, and 15 went to boys who are majoring in agriculture.

The four girls are Rita Dite, Manhattan; Joyce Faw, Washburn; Mrs. Florence White McMahan, Lerna; and Jean Ringenberg, Chicago.

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Freshman boys winning scholarships are Marion F. Brink, Golden Eagle; James W. Buxton, Sullivan; Allen G. Cole, Palmyra; Kenneth G. Comer, Casey; Jon F. Ellis, Penfield; David L. King, Plainfield; Charles J. Ricketts, Oswego; Gerald L. Ross, Greenfield; Hershel D. Sanders, Christopher; Jerry R. Steffen, Carlock; and William N. Weber, McHenry.

Sophomore boys winning scholarships include Robert W. Adams, Allendale; George R. Lander, Danvers; William E. Weingarz, Jr., Lincoln; and Lewis.

Each scholarship varies in amount from $100 to $200. All four sophomore winners had received Sears scholarships when they were freshmen. The awards are based on scholarship, leadership and financial need. This is the 15th year Sears Roebuck and Company has sponsored this scholarship program at the University of Illinois.

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for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 21, 1952

Champaign, Whiteside Counties Win 4-H Merit Plaques

Two Illinois counties have won 4-H merit plaques for outstanding work in farm safety and farm electricity in the state last year.

Champaign county received the General Motors award for its farm and home safety program. Whiteside county's farm electric program was awarded the merit plaque by the Westinghouse Educational Foundation.

In Champaign county, last year 220 4-H'ers took an active part in the safety project. These rural youngsters made 50 safety and 15 fire prevention surveys. They gave talks at local service clubs on accident and fire prevention. The 4-H federation put up more than 75 tractor safety posters for the Illinois Rural Safety Council.

Twelve of the 17 Whiteside 4-H Clubs had 55 members enrolled in the farm electricity project. The subject was divided into five study meetings: an introduction to electricity; cord and splices; safety-fuses, wire sizes, circuits; electric motors; a handicord demonstration and a tour. An Illinois utilities fieldman presented the technical material at these well-attended meetings.

The safety and electricity programs were under the supervision of the Illinois Extension Service.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 21, 1952

Rural Youth to Get Community Service Awards

Seven Illinois county Rural Youth groups will receive scholarships to the University of Illinois as awards for their 1951 community service activities.

Presentation and announcement of the scholarship awards will be made at the Rural Youth community service luncheon, Monday, January 28, during Farm and Home Week at the University in Urbana. S. A. Robert, director of agriculture and forestry for the Gulf, Mobile and Ohio railroad, Jackson, Tennessee, will present the awards.

These seven winning county Rural Youth groups were selected for having the best all-round community service activities among the 17 counties enrolled in the community service program. The program is sponsored by the G., M. & O. railroad in the 30 Illinois counties which it serves.

Any boy or girl living in each winning county is eligible to apply for the scholarship to the University of Illinois for the 1952-53 school year. Selection of the scholarship winners is made by the Scholarship Committee of the University.

Judges who selected the top seven counties were H. Clay Tate, editor of the Bloomington Pantagraph; Mrs. A. R. Raohlfing, Farmington, immediate past president of the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs; and Paul Johnson, Chicago, editor of Prairie Farmer.

The Community Service luncheon at noon will be only one of the activities planned for Illinois Rural Youth on Monday. Registration of all Rural Youth delegates and visitors will start at 9 a.m. in the lobby of Gregory Hall.

Viva Moody, Whiteside county, will open the morning session by telling of her experiences last summer on farms in Denmark. Other talks will mark the two sessions, and the program will wind up with the annual Rural Youth banquet in the evening.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 21, 1952

Feeder Lambs May Overeat

Lambs that make "hogs" of themselves in the feedlot are the ones that are most likely to die of overeating disease.

Dr. P. D. Beamer, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says a DeWitt county farmer recently lost 13 of his choice feeder lambs to overeating disease. Veterinarians call the disease enterotoxemia.

Your biggest and best lambs are usually the ones that get the disease, Dr. Beamer says. They have more chance to overeat because they can push between smaller lambs at the bunk and eat their feed too.

Two ways to avoid overeating troubles are to see (1) that there is plenty of bunk space for each lamb and (2) that the hay rack is kept filled with good-quality hay. If the lambs have plenty of hay, they won't be quite so hungry when feeding time comes.

Another thing: Vaccination against overeating disease helps to reduce losses. The best time to vaccinate is in the fall when the lambs first arrive in the feedlot. Veterinarians emphasize, however, that vaccination is no substitute for good feeding practices.

Owners of large flocks sometimes escape serious trouble another way. They sort their lambs for size so that each animal in a group has the same opportunity to get up to the feed bunk.

Overeating disease is not contagious, Dr. Beamer says. When a lamb overeats on concentrates, certain bacteria that are present in the intestines give off a deadly poison. Most lambs have the bacteria--the trouble starts when lambs eat too much.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 21, 1952

Clean Your Farm Shop to Be Safe

You can't do efficient, safe work in your farm shop if it is cluttered.

J. W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, says that orderliness, along with good lighting and safe tools and equipment, makes work in your farm shop easier as well as safer.

Matthews points out that generally it isn't the hand tools that cause shop accidents. It's the people that misuse them or misplace them. You can cut down the danger of an accident's happening in your shop by keeping the place clean and storing the tools and equipment systematically.

One hazard in working with hand tools is lack of adequate light. Have plenty of light over your work centers. It is also important to provide good ventilation in order to keep harmful fumes from accumulating while you are working.

Make a thorough check for fire hazards. If your shop is heated, see that your heating equipment is installed correctly and is operating right. Be careful when you use or store flammable liquids. Repair any defective electric appliances or wiring. Don't let oily rags accumulate. A fire extinguisher in the shop might help you put out a small fire immediately if one should get started.

If you use welding equipment, see that the operator has protective gloves and face shields. Also, be sure that there are no materials near the welding equipment, when it is being used, that might be ignited from sparks or welding flames.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 21, 1952

"Illinois Agriculture--1955 Model" Opens Farm and Home Week

You'll be missing one of the most interesting topics at Farm and Home Week, January 28-31, at the Illinois College of Agriculture if you're late in arriving on the opening day, reports program chairman G. L. Jordan.

A discussion, "Illinois Agriculture--1955 Model," is set for 10 a.m., Monday, January 28, as the opener of the four-day program. Taking part will be two farmers, Leslie Heiser, Champaign county, and George Irwin, Marion county, and three college staff members, M. B. Russell, head of agronomy department; G. W. Salisbury, head of dairy science department; and R. R. Snapp, head of beef cattle work.

With good weather, around 5,000 persons are expected to attend Farm and Home Week. About 300 reports on all phases of farming are scheduled, plus 13 special classes for women. For entertainment, there's the Stockmen's banquet, Illinois Crop Improvement Association banquet, Music and Drama festival, square dancing at the Winter Festival, Farm Management luncheon and other special events.

There'll be lots of learning and fun combined in the 51st Farm and Home Week. It's an ideal, practical midwinter vacation.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 21, 1952

How Heavy Should You Feed Your Hogs?

When corn prices go up and hog prices go down, hog producers wonder how heavy they should feed their hogs.

Harry G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says the first thing to remember in deciding that question is that it takes more corn to put a pound of gain on a 250-pound hog than on a 200-pound hog.

It takes 4.5 bushels of corn to put 50 pounds of gain on a 200-pound hog, but it takes 4.9 bushels of corn to put 50 pounds of gain on a 275-pound hog.

Another thing to remember is that heavy hogs generally sell for a lower price a pound than hogs of moderate weights. The market may also go up or down.

Figuring today's prices at $2 for corn and $20 for hogs, here's what hogs of various weights today would have to bring a month from now to pay for the extra gain (the relationship would be the same with $18.50 hogs and $1.85 corn): 200-pound hogs, $20.50 a hundredweight; 225-pound hogs, $20.55 a hundredweight; 250-pound hogs, $20.67 a hundredweight; and 275-pound hogs, $20.69 a hundredweight.

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for weeklies

Farm News

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 28, 1952

How Much Antibiotic Should You Feed?

A little antibiotic goes a long way in your livestock feed, and it is costly for you to feed more than you need.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that research has shown that aureomycin, terramycin, bacitracin and procaine penicillin are all effective when they are fed at the rate of 5 milligrams in each pound of total ration.

All you need to know, however, is the amount of antibiotic contained in the carrier that you buy. Feed control laws now require that antibiotic carriers be labeled with a tag stating that the product contains so many grams of antibiotic a pound. For a simple rule of thumb, just remember that you need 10 grams of antibiotic in each ton of complete ration.

For example, Carlisle points out that if the antibiotic carrier you buy contains 2 grams of antibiotic a pound, you need to put 5 pounds of the carrier in each ton of complete ration to get the desired level in your feed. If the carrier contains 5 grams of antibiotic in each pound, you will need to put 2 pounds of the carrier with each ton of complete ration.

If you mix your antibiotic carrier in with your protein supplement, you can remember that you need about 45 grams of antibiotic in each ton of protein supplement.

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1-23-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 28, 1952

Build Basement Right to Keep It Dry

It's easier and cheaper to make your basement water tight when you build it than it is at any later time.

Keith Hinchcliff, extension farm housing specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that, whenever possible, the outside surface is the place to stop leakage.

He says that even on the safe looking sites it's foolish to leave out footing tile drains and exterior wall coatings. Usually it's better to use two outside coatings, one of cement mortar to fill the voids and smooth the surface, and a top coating of hot tar or mastic.

A couple of diagonal tile lines under the basement floor to the footing tile lines is inexpensive protection against water's being forced up through the floor if high ground water is evident at times.

A good poured concrete wall, properly cured, is about as watertight as you can build a basement wall. It is best if it is made of well-mixed and placed concrete, with not more than 7 gallons of water for each bag of cement, and then kept moist for a week of curing. Masonry walls can be made watertight, too, if the tiles or blocks are laid with full mortar joints of waterproof mortar.

If you already have a basement that leaks, the easiest thing you can do is to see that the roof water is carried away with downspouts onto splash blocks or into a drain tile. Then grade the lawn to drain away from the foundation.

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A sump pump will drain off water once it gets into your basement. If you have any doubt about the ability of your basement to stay dry on the site you have chosen, it might pay to put in a pit for a sump pump when you build the basement.

Asphalt or tar makes good interior waterproofing but will not work on the inside wall surface unless you want to build another wall to hold it on. Oil paints are not effective either.

Waterproof water cement paints are inexpensive and are effective when they are properly applied and cured. If you have openings too large to be filled with paint, you can plaster the wall with a mixture of one part of Portland cement to 2-1/2 parts of mortar sand. Apply the first coat about 1/4 inch thick and then put on a second coat of the same thickness after 24 hours.

If ground water seeps up through cracks or porous spots in the flour, you can apply a heavy coat of waterproof mastic or roll roofing and then add a couple of inches of concrete over it to form a new floor. Don't forget to leave a plastic caulking joint around the edge of the floor next to the foundation.

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Need Good Hens to Produce Good Eggs

You can produce high-quality eggs if you have a flock of good hens.

S. F. Ridlen, extension poultryman at the Illinois College of Agriculture, suggests that you buy stock that has been bred to produce eggs with these qualities:

1. Large size which is reached soon after maturity.
2. Good shape, without ridges or other deformities.
3. Desirable and uniform shell color.
4. Good shell texture that persists throughout the year.
5. Plenty of firm, thick white that holds up well under handling.
6. Freedom from blood and meat spots.

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1-23-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 28, 1952

Order Windbreak Trees for April Planting

If you're planning a windbreak planting this spring on your farm, order the trees you'll need as soon as you can in order to be sure of getting the ones you want.

W. F. Bulkley, extension forester at the Illinois College of Agriculture, suggests that you divide the windbreak planting job into two years' work if it looks too big to do all at once. Plant one section this spring and complete the planting next year.

Before you order the trees, Bulkley thinks it's a good idea to map your windbreak planting on a sheet of paper. Planting a windbreak may be just the opportunity you have been looking for to change your lot locations and move fences around to make your farmstead arrangement handier.

You will want to know definitely where to plant your trees so that you will have them in the right place and will be able to order the exact number of trees you will need. The best location for a windbreak, Bulkley points out, is on the north and west sides of your farmstead.

A good, tight windbreak protecting your feedlot, for instance, will help your stock get through the winter better. It can also help to conserve moisture for garden crops during the spring and summer, and it can help to protect fruit trees from severe winter damage. And don't forget the comfort a windbreak will provide you during the cold winter months.

If you want to see a good windbreak planting, ask your county farm adviser to visit one with you. Ask him for a copy of Circular 38, "Windbreaks for Illinois Farmsteads," and "Trees for Windbreak Planting, Spring 1952," listing sources of trees available from Illinois nurseries.

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1-23-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 28, 1952

New Vegetable, Fruit, Flower Varieties Bred at Urbana

If you have ever enjoyed eating a sack of Illinois Hulless Popcorn, maybe you wondered where it came from and how it was developed.

Illinois Hulless is one of many new varieties of fruits, vegetables and flowers that are constantly being bred at the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, Urbana.

W. A. Huelsen, horticulturist at the college, says that these new varieties are bred for better quality, adaptability to certain conditions, improved appearance and resistance to disease and insects.

Since 1935 the department of horticulture has introduced 21 sweet corn hybrids. Nine tomato varieties, several lima beans and a sweet pepper are some of the other vegetables developed at the experiment station.

A chrysanthemum breeding program began at the station in 1908. Since that time 78 new varieties of greenhouse mums have been released to the florist industry. Five more varieties will be introduced in 1953, and 13 new seedlings have been placed on trial for possible introduction in 1954. Breeding work is also in progress on carnations, African violets, snapdragons, amaryllis and freesias.

New fruit varieties recently introduced by the horticulture department include seven new peaches, a new strawberry and a new apple. The station has developed a new Persian (English) walnut which is winter-hardy and especially suited to Illinois. Last September the nut was named in honor of A. S. Colby, horticulturist at the college, who tested this variety for 14 years.

At the present time 47 research projects in progress at the station are developing more new varieties of fruits, vegetables and flowers which you may be eating or enjoying in the future.

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1-23-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JANUARY 28, 1952

Observe Farm Safety Resolutions Entire Year

Farm safety resolutions kept throughout the entire year are an activity for the whole family.

John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, says making and keeping farm safety resolutions is not only practical, but also of great importance. Keeping your farm a safe place to work and live in 1952 is one way to help insure your family's health and happiness.

Here are some suggested farm safety resolutions from the Council:

1. We will be alert for safety fifty-two weeks of the year.
2. We will check the farm and farm home to locate and remove hazards.
3. Regardless of the emergency, we will not permit young children to operate or ride upon farm machinery.
4. We will keep all shields and guards in place on machines.
5. We will be cautious in handling all farm animals.
6. We will keep guns unloaded and out of reach of children.
7. We will handle poisons and explosives carefully, keeping them well labeled and out of reach of children.
8. We will encourage farm safety activities in all our organizations.

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1-23-52

for weeklies

Farm News

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4, 1952

Illinois Timber Is Increasing

Timber standing in the woods is like money in a savings account. And Illinois' timber bank balance is growing every year!

J. N. Spaeth, head of the department of forestry at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that Illinois is harvesting less than half of its annual timber growth. The rest is accumulating every year until, at the present time, there is enough merchantable timber in the woods of Illinois to build 80,000 six-room homes.

The new wood produced by the growth each year here in the state is more than 400 million board feet of lumber. At least half of this is saved and added each year to the estimated timber "capital" of 10 billion board feet.

Spaeth says that Illinois started with 14 million acres of forest land. At one time overcutting trimmed that down to not much more than 3 million acres. But because Illinois farmers and woodsmen in recent years have followed the policy of harvesting only part of the timber "interest" and letting the rest accumulate on the timber "capital," that figure has increased to 4 million.

At the same time, the increased "capital" will be the basis for future growth. Not only will the balance grow each year, but annual production will increase, just as the interest on a growing bank balance increases.

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1-29-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4, 1952

Don't Guess When Poultry Disease Strikes

Guessing about disease in your chicken flock at this time of the year can result in severe losses, warns Dr. L. E. Hanson, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

Five diseases that may strike poultry flocks during the winter are easily mistaken for one another. These diseases are bronchitis, coryza, Newcastle disease, chronic fowl cholera and laryngotracheitis.

If disease strikes, take two or three live, sick birds to your veterinarian or to a diagnostic laboratory, Dr. Hanson advises. A correct diagnosis is important in controlling the disease and preventing it in the future.

To get sick chickens on the road to recovery, provide proper ventilation to assure dry quarters, and keep plenty of good feed and clean water available. Poultrymen often find that a wet mash encourages chickens to eat.

You can control Newcastle disease and laryngotracheitis in your future flocks by vaccinating them during the range season. Coryza, bronchitis and fowl cholera can best be controlled by shipping all hens to market at the end of the laying season.

After marketing your adult flock, clean the poultry house thoroughly before you move your poults into it next fall. Scrub it with boiling lye water, and spray it with a good disinfectant. Be sure to clean and disinfect the feeders and waterers, too, because many diseases are spread through contaminated feed and water.

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LEA:bb
1-29-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4, 1952

New Egg-Grading Law Explained

Illinois poultrymen do not have to candle and grade their own eggs before selling them, and they do not need a license of any kind, according to the new egg-grading law.

E. E. Broadbent, egg marketing specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says the law, which went into effect in Illinois on December 5, has raised many questions among poultry raisers. To clear up any misunderstanding, here are four main provisions of the law:

All eggs sold at retail or wholesale must be candled. Farmers selling direct to consumers or storekeepers do not have to candle their eggs.

All eggs sold at retail must be labeled to show grade (quality) and size (weight), or they must be labeled "ungraded."

For most purposes, five grades of eggs will be sold: A Extra Large, A Large, A Medium, B Large and ungraded eggs.

Dealers shall be licensed, but farmers need no license.

Broadbent explains that the law requires that tradespeople do the candling. They do not have to grade the eggs; but if they don't, the eggs must be labeled "ungraded" when sold at retail.

Farmers do not have to pay the $1.00 retail distributor's fee if they sell only their own eggs from their own flocks to their own retail customers.

Many retailers have stopped buying eggs from farmers on farm-run basis and are buying quality, graded eggs. But Broadbent says this will probably benefit Illinois egg producers in the long run.

Studies of egg-grading operations show that, when farmers sell their eggs by U. S. standards and grades--and stay with it--they get about 6 cents more a dozen. In addition, they improve the quality of their eggs, and they increase the size of their flocks.

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1-29-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4, 1952

Two 4-H'ers Win Danforth Scholarships

Winona Jean LeSeure, 19, Mt. Carmel, Wabash county, and Philip Hobson, 19, Greenfield, Greene county, have been named 1952 winners of the 4-H Danforth scholarship awards.

These two outstanding Illinois 4-H Club members will spend two full weeks of leadership training and outdoor life next August at the American Youth Foundation Leadership Training camp at Camp Miniwanca on Lake Michigan near Shelby, Michigan.

Sponsor of the award is the Danforth Foundation, a private family fund started by William H. Danforth, chairman of the board of the Ralston Purina company in St. Louis. The scholarship covers the cost of the two-week camping period.

Winona Jean and Philip were selected by the state 4-H Club staff at the University of Illinois to represent the 57,000 Illinois 4-H'ers on the basis of their 4-H leadership and activitites, scholarship and character. One boy and one girl are selected from each state for the award.

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John R. LeSeure of Mt. Carmel, Miss LeSeure has been a 4-H Club member for 9 years. She was graduated from Mt. Carmel high school in 1949 and is now enrolled at the University of Illinois. She has been most active in the clothing project and has modeled twice in the State Fair dress revue. She has been a state outstanding club member, state project honor member for three years, and a junior club leader. She attended State Leadership Conference in 1951.

Hobson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hobson of Greenfield. He also has been a 4-H Club member for 9 years. He was graduated from Greenfield high school in 1950 and is also enrolled at the University of Illinois. He has completed 48 projects, concentrating on swine and garden. As state garden winner, he was a delegate to National 4-H Club Congress in 1950.

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1-30-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4, 1952

New Apple Variety Now Available

Illinois fruit growers can now get scions of a promising new apple variety, the Crandall, introduced last fall by the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station.

C. J. Birkeland, head of the department of horticulture at the University of Illinois, says that the experiment station will welcome comments and observations from anyone who cares to test the new variety.

The Crandall was selected from 46 seedlings derived from a cross made in 1914 of Rome Beauty and Jonathan. It first fruited in 1925, eight years after planting in the seedling orchard at Urbana.

The tree grows vigorously and forms a rather low-spreading tree of the Rome type with crotches which seldom split out. The foliage is less susceptible to apple scab than either Jonathan or Rome Beauty. Blotch and sooty blotch have not been a problem up to this time.

This attractive apple has a ground color of yellow with up to 95 percent glossy, medium-red over-color. It usually averages as large as or larger than the Jonathan. Its flesh is yellowish-white, fine-grained, crisp and juicy. The apple rates very high as dessert and cooked.

In storage the Crandall develops a heavy wax over the skin which helps to keep it fresh, firm and moist. It hasn't developed any spotting of the skin which is so common with Jonathan and Baldwin.

Probably one of the Crandall's outstanding selling points is that it reaches its best quality in late February or mid-March, after most other varieties are well past their prime.

The new variety was named in honor of the late Charles S. Crandall, who directed the fruit breeding work at the Illinois station for many years.

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1-29-52

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11, 1952

Don't Forget the Small Things in Poultry Sanitation

You wouldn't deliberately spread disease germs in your poultry flock, but neglecting the small things in poultry sanitation has the same effect.

Dr. L. E. Hanson, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says it's important to buy healthy day-old chicks, brood them in sanitary surroundings, rotate yards and ranges and use sanitary waterers and feeders. But the small things in poultry sanitation, if overlooked, can also lead to disease losses.

For example, poultrymen may spend hours cleaning and disinfecting a poultry house and then slip up on some other step of sanitation. One of these things may be failing to disinfect shipping crates or feed sacks before returning them to the flock area.

Be sure to make your poultry house bird- and rodent-proof. Disease outbreaks are sometimes traced to sparrows, rats or mice.

Another good practice is to keep visitors out of your poultry house and yard, and to stay out of theirs. Before entering your flock area, step into a pan of disinfectant to kill germs that may be on your boots.

Dr. Hanson also advises keeping chickens of different age groups separated. Older hens may be carriers of disease germs, so plan to market them each fall, and clean and disinfect the laying house before the pullets start the laying season.

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2-5-52

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Cut Farm Gas Loss With Proper Storage

It's possible to lose as much as 10 percent of your farm gasoline supply every year through evaporation, leaks and spilling.

H. P. Bateman, agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that means that you can lose up to 180 gallons of gasoline a year if you use as much as 1,800 gallons. That can be costly.

Bateman points out that you can cut evaporation losses, maintain the quality of the gasoline and help to prevent fires if you will provide safe, suitable storage on your farm.

Evaporation loss comes largely from tanks exposed to the sun. You not only lose valuable gasoline from evaporation, but also may find your tractor and car hard to start in the winter with the lower quality gas. Evaporation increases the gum content of stored gas which causes valve trouble and loss of power.

Underground storage tanks are better for storing gasoline than aboveground tanks, Bateman says. It is easier to maintain the gasoline quality underground because the evaporation problem is decreased. Underground tanks are also safer. However, you can get loss of gas from leaks in underground tanks and fuel lines. These leaks may get into your well water or run into sewer lines of milk houses or basements and cause trouble.

If you plan underground storage of gas or fuel oil, buy a high-quality tank, coat the outside with waterproofing material and take all possible precautions to prevent leaks in the pipe connections. Occasionally pump out the water condensation from the bottom of the tank.

Bateman recommends that you control gasoline quality in aboveground storage by locating the tank in a shaded spot or providing a shade roof. Use the fuel soon after you buy it, and keep water and dirt drained from the bottom of the tank.

RAJ:lw 2-6-52

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11, 1952

Dixon Springs Grows Low-Cost Cattle

Livestockmen at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station produce cattle that make cheap gains on roughage and good pasture

H. A. Cate, extension assistant at the Station, reports that regardless of the wintering method of feeding, all cattle marketed from the Station last fall were outstanding for feed economy.

Cate says 30 head of yearling steers recently brought $34 on the East St. Louis market. These steers, sired by purebred bulls and born to grade cows, averaged 857 pounds in weight at about 18 months of age when they were sold.

When these steers were weaned in November 1950, they were divided into three lots of 10 steers each. All were handled the same except for a winter feeding period of 160 days.

One lot was wintered on corn silage, hay and soybean oil meal in drylot. Another lot was wintered on hay alone in drylot. The third lot was wintered on fescue pasture. Average winter gain for the well-wintered group was 107 pounds; for the hay and pastured lots it was 8 pounds.

All lots were put on the same summer pasture of Ladino clover and grass for 120 days. The well-wintered group averaged 176 pounds of gain on pasture; the hay-wintered group, 202 pounds; and the pasture-wintered lot, 207 pounds.

During the 95 days before marketing, all steers were full fed on pasture, and still the pasture-wintered lot put on the most

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weight--202 pounds compared with 168 pounds for the well-wintered steers and 195 pounds for the hay-wintered lot.

These steers averaged 456 pounds in weight at the start of the experiment. When they were marketed 376 days later, the well-wintered lot averaged 907 pounds, the hay-wintered lot averaged 861 pounds and the pasture-wintered lot averaged 873 pounds.

Cate points out that no lot received more than 17 bushels of corn a steer. Necessary selling price to take care of shrink, marketing costs, original cost of steers and cost of harvested feed was only $24.22 a hundredweight for the well-wintered lot, $23.10 for the hay-wintered lot and $21.34 for the pasture-wintered lot.

Original cost of these home-grown steers was figured at 32 cents a pound in the fall of 1950. Even if you had to pay 40 cents a pound today for comparable steers, the necessary selling price under the same systems of management would be only $28.24 for the well-wintered steers, $27.34 for the hay-wintered lot and $25.49 for the pasture-wintered lot.

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Henderson Heads Illinois Rural Safety Council

Melvin Henderson, associate professor of vocational agriculture at the University of Illinois, was elected president of the Illinois Rural Safety Council at its annual meeting on January 31 in Urbana.

Election of officers for 1952 highlighted the meeting in the Illini Union. Other officers elected include Marvin J. Nicol,

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Illinois Chain Store Council, Chicago, 1st vice president; E. I. Pilchard, state agricultural 4-H Club leader, University of Illinois, 2nd vice president; J. W. Matthews, department of agricultural engineering, University of Illinois, executive secretary; and Clarence Kleckner, Illinois State Grange, Rockford, treasurer.

Members of the executive committee elected at the meeting include Bruce Clark, Soil Conservation Service, Champaign, and Rena Hodgen, State Board of Vocational Education, Springfield, awards committee; J. B. Adams, State Board of Vocational Education, Springfield, and Ray Duncan, Office of Public Instruction, Springfield, education committee; Dawson Womeldorff, Public Service Company of Northern Illinois, Chicago, and H. K. Scott, Farm Underwriters Association, Chicago, finance committee; John Cox, Illinois Agricultural Association,Chicago, and N. G. P. Krausz, Institute of Government and Public Affairs, University of Illinois, legislative committee.

Also, James Thomson, Prairie Farmer, Chicago, Robert Jarnagin, extension editorial office, University of Illinois, and Russell Van Cleve, Illinois Agricultural Association, Chicago, publicity committee; Wendell Bowers, department of agricultural engineering, University of Illinois, and O. K. Sagen, Illinois Department of Public Health, Springfield, statistics committee; and Mrs. James Graham, Morrisonville, and Mrs. Harold Joy, Chapin, Illinois Home Bureau Federation, women's activities committee.

An outstanding feature of the annual meeting was a demonstration on farm fire prevention by Chief H. A. Lettenberger, of the Kiel Fire Department, Kiel, Wisconsin. Lettenberger showed very convincingly how easy it is to start flash fires by the improper handling and storage of combustible materials. He emphasized the need for extreme care and caution in the use of gasoline, oil, benzine and naphtha.

The Illinois Rural Safety Council is an organization whose primary purpose is to help reduce accidents and fires affecting people in rural Illinois.

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for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18, 1952

Avoid Losses With High-Moisture Corn

A University of Illinois agricultural economist has warned that many farmers holding high-moisture corn in storage may face serious losses.

L. F. Stice points out that reports already indicate that some damage has occurred. And damage in high-moisture corn will increase with warmer weather.

Farmers in the tightest spot may be those who need all their corn to feed livestock. Many of these men may find it profitable to dry their corn artificially.

Farmers who have corn to sell have three choices, depending on the condition of their corn: sell it, dry it or let it dry naturally. If the corn is already showing damage like blue-eye mold, the price penalty will probably be less now than when warm weather increases the damage.

If good-quality corn tests much more than 20 percent in moisture, it may pay to dry it and hold it, since wet corn is now heavily penalized. Chances are good, also, for prices to hold up or even increase later on good-quality corn.

If corn tests lower than 20 percent, Stice believes farmers will be money ahead to let it dry naturally.

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2-13-52

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18, 1952

Plan 4-H Membership Drive

With their 1952 theme, "Serving As Loyal Citizens Through 4-H," some 57,000 Illinois 4-H'ers will launch a membership drive during National 4-H Club Week, March 1 through 9. The goal in Illinois: 60,000 members in 1952.

E.I. Pilchard, in charge of agricultural 4-H Club work at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says special invitations to become 4-H members will be extended to eligible boys and girls in each county during the week. Young people between the ages of 10 and 21 are qualified to take part in the club's activities if they want to "learn by doing" some farming, homemaking or community activities. Interested boys and girls can ask their local county farm or home adviser for enrollment cards.

Pilchard says that boys and girls who would like to join 4-H but who have no club in their locality may be interested in organizing one. All that is needed is a group of enthusiastic youngsters and an adult to be the club leader.

The 4-H Clubs in each county are guided by county extension workers and local volunteer club leaders. But club members elect their own officers, help plan their own programs, select their own projects and demonstration subjects and make decisions on the affairs of their clubs.

4-H builds good citizens as well as better farmers and homemakers of the future. Most clubs carry on community improvement

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activities in which all members have responsibilities in addition to their individual project work.

Projects for boys in the agricultural clubs include beef or dairy cattle, swine, sheep, poultry, crops, tractor maintenance, farm concrete or metal roofing, farm electricity, forestry, gardening and soil conservation.

In the home economics clubs, girls' activities include clothing, baking, canning, frozen foods, dairy products, food preparation and home improvement.

Health, achievement, citizenship, leadership, records, farm safety, recreation and rural arts are some of the activities in which 4-H boys and girls may work together.

The Illinois 4-H'ers helped contribute to the fine record made by the 2 million 4-H members all over the country last year. Their achievements include 1 million head of livestock and 9 million head of poultry raised, 16 million quarts of products preserved and 5 million pounds of food frozen. In addition, they produced an impressive total of 120,000 acres of garden products.

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Tips on Reducing Moisture Damage to Paint

If you've had trouble with paint peeling or cracking on your farm buildings, it's a good bet that moisture from behind the paint surface caused the damage.

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Keith Hinchcliff, farm buildings specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says moisture reaching unprotected wood from the outside, and vapor from within the building, will cause paint to blister and peel.

Rain caught in unprotected joints of corner boards and trim, or between roof and wall, for example, will often cause paint trouble.

At the same time, moisture which forms from cooking, laundry, wet basements, leaky plumbing and lack of ventilation is probably a more frequent cause of damage.

Even the best paint is subject to blistering and cracking from moisture. But here are some ways in which you can reduce the damage and make the paint last longer:

Apply paint in dry weather when no temperature drop is expected.

Paint over a firm base only. It's tedious work to remove loose paint, but it has to be done.

If you're not going to paint again for 8 or 10 years, a soft, self-cleaning type paint may serve you best. But if you plan to repaint in 4 or 5 years, harder paints, such as those including zinc oxide pigments, have advantages.

Buy good quality paint with a large percentage of pigment to vehicle--usually 50 percent or over by weight. It will save you money and avoid trouble over a period of years.

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Insulation of homes or farm buildings should include a vapor barrier on the warm side of the wall or ceiling to prevent moisture from collecting in the wall or behind the paint. Waterproof paints, papers or foils can be applied.

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Use Native Timber To Cut Farm Construction Costs

Use the timber you grow, or buy native lumber, for your farm building construction. The savings will surprise you!

C. S. Walters, forest products utilization specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that home-grown lumber is just as effective for many uses as wood from the west coast and the south. Since it doesn't have to be kiln-dried, planed and shipped two or three thousand miles by rail, it's much cheaper, too.

Careful advance planning is another way to cut costs of construction. You can't cut the logs, or have them cut, until you know how many you need and what size they should be. Then, too, you'll need time to get the cutting done and to have the lumber sawed and dried and some of it dressed or planed.

Right now is a good time to get the logs cut and the lumber stacked for seasoning. Unless the wood is properly seasoned, twisting, warping and cracking will cause waste and make it more expensive.

Using the right kind of wood and the proper grade will save money too. For example, cottonwood may serve your purpose just as well

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as oak, and it's cheaper. A No. 2 grade may be strong enough for studding; if so, it will cost more than necessary if you buy a better grade for that use.

Walters says it's a good idea to have native woods pressure treated by a commercial company if a custom-treating service is available. There are several companies throughout the state that do this work. If pressure-treated wood is not readily available, you'll have to depend on home-treated wood. For example, barn sills, which are usually placed on a concrete foundation, absorb moisture from the concrete. So, it's worth while to give pine and fir sills a couple of coats of creosote, penta or copper naphthenate.

For many uses, native lumber doesn't need to be planed. But for siding, one side of the board should be planed. It makes painting easier and saves paint.

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2-12-52

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, 1952

Dry Dairy Cows Deserve Good Care

The kind of care you give your dry dairy cows helps to determine the amount of money they will earn for you after they freshen.

Dr. G. T. Woods, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says that dry dairy cows, next to growing heifers, are probably the most neglected animals on the average farm. Cows deserve good care all the time, not just when they are in production.

To insure high milk production records, feed your dry cows properly, Dr. Woods advises. Cows in good condition at calving time usually outproduce cows that have been living on hay and a little corn. Good rations also build resistance to disease.

Before you remove a cow from the milking line, check her carefully for signs of mastitis. Veterinarians say that a good time to treat a cow is while she is dry. And watch dry cows for signs of infection. If mastitis appears, prompt treatment helps to prevent udder damage.

If there are lice or mange in the dairy herd, treat the dry cows too. Lindane, used as a dust, will get rid of the lice. If the cattle have both lice and mange, use lindane in a spray. In either case, be sure to use this pesticide according to the manufacturer's directions.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, 1952

How a Winner Handles His Farm Flock

One way to succeed in the purebred sheep business is to handle the sheep as though they were a strictly commercial flock.

That's what Carl Dunbar, Bushnell, McDonough county, believes. Dunbar was first-place winner in his division in the 1951 Illinois Sheep Production contest.

Last year Dunbar raised 99 lambs from 73 ewes; this year he has 85 ewes to lamb. He has 21 grade ewes and 64 registered Corriedales. He also raised 30 litters of pigs and fed out 43 head of heifers in 1951 on the 400 acres he operates.

Sheep at Dunbar's run on grass-legume pasture in summer, but never in the same fields with hogs. The sheep barn where they winter is pole construction with ground hay storage and sheds on three sides. Rams are housed separately.

The ewes are fed grain in winter once a day outdoors in V-troughs made from 6-inch boards. They get alfalfa hay twice a day inside in portable racks. Dunbar uses 5-sided racks with bottoms to feed the ewe lambs both hay and grain, and he puts boxes of loose iodized salt in each section of the shed.

Corriedales produce enough fleece to shear twice a year. Fall-shorn ewes have cleaner fleece, do not carry so much rain or snow, and the lambs have a clear track to the dinner table, Dunbar says. Because of their short fleece, they spend more time inside in winter, and that helps to prevent colds and pneumonia in both themselves and their lambs.

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For the lambs when they arrive, Dunbar uses brooder pens with heat lamps. These pens are about 5 feet square, have tight sides and are covered with sheet metal. He keeps each ewe and her lambs penned apart from the rest for a few days until they are thoroughly acquainted.

Lambs are docked and castrated with elastrator rings by the time they are a week old. If they have ticks, they are dusted with a mixture of benzene hexachloride and face powder. As soon as they are ready, they get a creep feed of a mixture of corn, oats and calf starter pellets. They are watched closely for bowel troubles, sore eyes and pneumonia. Dunbar has had excellent results in treating pneumonia with penicillin and sulfathiazole when the lambs are treated within the first 12 hours.

As soon as possible, the flock goes out on pasture. The ewes are first drenched for worms and sprayed with DDT for external parasites. They get iodized salt at all times, mixed with 10 percent phenothiazine.

The sheep are yarded every night. Bringing the flock in cuts down on dog trouble. It also gives the owner a chance to look over his flock at least once a day to count his sheep and to detect the first signs of sickness.

Most important of all for a successful sheep business, Dunbar believes, is that the owner like and understand sheep. They will reward patience and care with high cash returns and much personal satisfaction.

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2-20-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, 1952

Cheap Tractor Oil Can Be Expensive

If you short-change your tractor with cheap lubricating oil, it may kick right back at you with a big repair bill and a breakdown in a busy season.

George Pickard, research agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that you should buy tractor oil from a reputable dealer in your own community. He has to live with his customers, so he will give you what you pay for.

It is possible for you to save up to 3/4 cent an hour of your tractor operation by buying cheap oil instead of a premium-quality oil. But look what cheap, inferior oil can do to your engine.

It can form heavy sludge in cold weather which will block the oil screen, stop flow of oil to the bearings and may burn out a bearing or two. It also oxidizes more easily than high-quality oil causing more varnish to form. Varnish collects with carbon on the pistons and in the ring grooves.

Stuck rings cause your engine to become an oil-eater. They also cause rapid wear of rings and cylinder walls and blow-by into the crankcase. Blow-by causes acid to form in the oil. Oil pumped into the combustion chamber causes heavy deposits, resulting in pre-ignition and loss of power.

Cheap oil may also corrode the bearings.

Pickard points out that good oil avoids these troubles mainly because the impurities and trouble-causing parts are removed. Additive compounds used in premium and heavy-duty oils prevent oxidation to varnish and acids. They prevent bearing corrosion and formation of carbon and varnish deposits on pistons and ring grooves.

Watch out for the salesman with cheap oil that is "just as good." Regular and premium-priced oil of unknown brand can be just as bad. Poor stock doped up with added compounds will not hold up in your engine.

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2-19-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, 1952

Trees Need Fertilizer for Best Growth

Fertilize your shade trees and evergreens in early spring as soon as the frost is out of the ground if you want healthy, vigorous growth.

H. R. Kemmerer, rural landscape specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says it's a good idea to apply fertilizer every year to young trees, but once every three years is enough for older trees.

Kemmerer offers some ideas on how to apply the fertilizer. For shade trees, use a punch bar to make a series of small holes two feet apart and about 18 inches deep in the soil under the branch spread of each tree. Put a small amount of fertilizer in each hole and fill with top soil or peat.

While no one fertilizer is best, Kemmerer recommends those which contain a high proportion of nitrogen.

Here's an easy rule to follow:

Apply three or four pounds of a 10-8-6 or 10-6-4 fertilizer for each inch of trunk diameter 4.6 feet above the ground. If trees are less than 6 inches in diameter, cut that amount in half.

The numbers 10-8-6 and 10-6-4 mean that the fertilizer contains 10 percent nitrogen, 8 (or 6) percent phosphorus and 6 (or 4) percent potash.

The same types of fertilizers and the same method can be used for pine, spruce and other evergreen trees. However, they need less fertilizer. Two pounds are enough for each inch of trunk diameter. Be careful not to spill any fertilizer on the evergreen foliage. High nitrogen fertilizer will "burn" evergreen foliage.

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MCD:bb
2-19-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, 1952

Vibriosis Threatens Cattle, Sheep Production

Vibriosis, a disease new to many Illinois farmers, threatens to become a serious menace to cattle and sheep production.

H. E. Rhoades, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, explains that vibriosis causes abortions in pregnant cattle and sheep. In cattle, the abortion rate often reaches 12 percent, while the abortion rate from brucellosis seldom exceeds 4 to 5 percent.

Sheep may have an even higher rate of abortions. In DeWitt county recently, a farmer was able to save only three lambs from 24 ewes. This means that 88 percent of the ewes aborted.

To prevent vibriosis, be sure the cattle or sheep you buy come from farms that have never had the disease. But if the disease strikes, isolate the aborting animals and keep them separated until the discharge ceases. Dispose of the dead calves or lambs and their membranes, and disinfect the pens.

Losses from vibriosis are often severe the first year, and then the disease tends to die out. Cows usually recover from the disease if they are given a 90-day breeding rest. So far there is no way to vaccinate against the disease.

Call your veterinarian if your ewes or cows begin to abort, or take the aborted calf or lamb and its membranes to a veterinary diagnostic laboratory. An accurate diagnosis is needed to rule out other diseases that also cause abortions.

Professor Rhoades says vibriosis most often strikes cattle during the fifth and sixth months of pregnancy, although it may occur any time. Sheep may go up to within a week or two of full term before aborting.

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2-19-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, 1952

Keep Newborn Pigs Warm to Prevent Losses

The first 12 hours of a baby pig's life are the most critical. If the surrounding air temperature during that time is below 45° F., you must provide extra heat to prevent losses from chilling.

S. W. Terrill, head of the swine division at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says the most common way to prevent losses from chilling is to install a heat lamp in a protected corner of the farrowing pen. Pigs kept under the infrared lamp there for a few minutes will usually recognize that corner as a source of heat and spend a good part of their time under the lamp.

However, the pigs should be placed under the lamp right after birth because they won't seek it out without help. The corner must be boarded off so that the sow cannot enter. Otherwise there is danger that she will lie on the pigs.

Once the pigs are a week old, Terrill says it's doubtful whether they will need any supplementary heat.

Another way to assure direct heat during the dangerous first 12 hours is to suspend a 250-watt infrared lamp from the center of the pen about 3 feet from the floor to furnish a circle of heat for the litter.

Terrill says that, if the additional center lamp is used, it should be removed as soon after birth as possible and the pigs should be encouraged to seek out the heated, protected corner of the pen.

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for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 3, 1952

Illinois 4-H Girl Delegate to Puerto Rico

Doris Baity, 24, of Flora is spending six weeks in Puerto Rico as Illinois' midwinter 4-H delegate to the Puerto Rican Farm Youth Exchange.

Doris was one of eight young men and women from as many states who flew from Washington, D.C., to San Juan, Puerto Rico, on February 1. They will return to Washington about March 15.

While on the island, the American 4-H delegates are spending several days at the University of Puerto Rico for orientation and then are traveling with agricultural extension people there for about 10 days to study social and economic conditions. They will spend the last four weeks of their visit living and working on some of the larger sugar, coffee and coconut farms.

In a return program, 12 young men and women from Puerto ico will come to the United States in early summer to live and work n farms in this country.

At present employed as a home economics teacher at Greenville igh school, Doris was graduated from the University of Illinois in une 1949. She was a 4-H Club member for eight years, has served as a ounty youth assistant in extension work for two summers helping with -H Club and Rural Youth activities and has worked as recreation counelor at 4-H Club camp for three summers.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 3, 1952

Cheap Chicks May Be Most Costly

The number of eggs your chickens will lay this year depends mainly on their breeding.

Sam Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that your first cost for good-quality chicks may be high,but your profits will usually be greater, too,than if you buy cheap chicks. In fact, the cheaper ones can actually cost more in the long run.

Ridlen points out that high chick quality means low death rate, efficient use of feed, rapid growth, fast and complete feathering and uniform size. When you buy for a laying flock, you'll also want chicks that will produce large numbers of high-quality eggs.

Low death rate is important in any successful poultry business. Help assure yourself of healthy chicks by buying only from hatcheries that carry on a good pullorum testing program. Hatcheries and poultry breeders taking part in the National Poultry Improvement Plan must meet standards of pullorum testing and sanitation.

Look for and buy rapid-growing, fast-feathering checks instead of the slow growers. They'll mature faster, with less feed cost and get into production earlier next fall when egg prices are highest. Also, buy from a breeder who is known to have stock bred for high egg production.

Take care of your flock to prevent losses later as the chicks grow. Loss of a two-pound bird means not only the loss of labor and the cost of the chick, but also the loss of about six pounds of feed. Proper sanitation measures and vaccination against diseases prevalent in your area will help to prevent these later losses.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 3, 1952

Fix Broken Ladders, Stairs Before Using

Write a little of your own accident insurance by making repairs to ladders and stairs as soon as you notice any defects.

Melvin Henderson, president of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, says you should look your ladders over carefully, before you use them, to spot rusted or loose bolts and nails and cracked, rotten or loose rungs or supports. If anything looks in need of repair, fix it right away.

Be sure a ladder is set securely before you climb it. The Rural Safety Council recommends setting it so that the base is one-fourth the height of the ladder away from the wall. If there is any danger that the ladder may slip while you are on it, tie it or have someone hold it.

Always face a ladder when you go up or down, and hold on with both hands. Take one step at a time and don't hurry; a misstep may cause a bad fall. Any tools or materials that you can't carry in your pockets should be hoisted with a hand line.

Don't take unnecessary risks by working on a ladder in a high wind, advises the council. Whenever you do work on one, work facing the ladder and hold on with one hand. It is easy to lose your balance and tumble if you overreach or overexert in pulling or pushing while you are working.

Never leave your ladder where it will fall, be tipped over or bumped into. Store it in a place where you can get it in a hurry in case of fire or other emergency.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 3, 1953

Watch for Foot Disease in Cattle, Sheep

If you have trouble with foot rot in your cattle or sheep, keep your barnyard well drained this winter and next spring, and provide plenty of bedding in the shed.

Dr. L. E. Boley, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says some herds have severe outbreaks of foot rot. Usually it appears when animals have to stand in barnyard mud, especially if the mud contains sharp stones, sticks or cinders.

Watch your cattle and sheep closely during wet weather, Dr. Boley suggests. Although few animals die of the disease, weight and production losses may result when animals become so lame that they refuse to walk to feed and water.

If lameness appears, look for a break in the skin near the hoof or for a sensitive area between the claws. If the foot goes untreated, a swelling will appear in the soft parts of the foot, or the swelling may spread from the hoof to well above the pastern.

Wash the hoof and keep the animal in a clean, well-bedded pen, Dr. Boley advises. If the infection gets worse after a day or two, call your veterinarian. Neglected cases of foot rot are hard to treat and often take several weeks to cure.

Another thing--be sure to keep animals with foot rot separated from the rest of the herd. Otherwise the disease may spread through your other cattle and sheep.

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2-26-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 3, 1952

Truman Greets 4-H'ers on National Club Week

The United States and the world both need now, more than ever before, the things 4-H'ers are doing to unite youth and the soil in the interest of world peace.

That's the challenge that President Harry S. Truman gives to Illinois' 57,000 4-H Club members during National 4-H Club Week, March 1-9.

"You are now, I am informed, a force of two million members, growing crops and livestock, as well as improving your homes, your community and yourselves," the President said in his message. "You are doing things that make our country strong in the struggle for world peace and understanding.

"It is a satisfaction to know that your crop projects alone total over a million acres of our best production. You can be proud of the way you have carried out Department of Agriculture and Land-Grant College recommendations to achieve this.

"This all counts very much, but the biggest value is what you have learned about food farming and good citizenship. Hundreds of your neighbors understand people of other nations better because of your International Farm Youth Exchange program and the discussions of world peace problems which you are featuring in your meetings.

"There is strength in our youth, in our soil and in our working together. Our country and the world need now, more than ever before, the kind of work you are doing to unite those pillars of strength in the interest of world peace. That is the challenge I leave with you."

The Illinois 4-H Club program, administered by the Extension Service of the Illinois College of Agriculture, teaches rural boys and girls better farming and better homemaking through project work. During National 4-H Club Week, these youngsters will be planning their activities for this year and making county-wide drives for new members.

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for weeklies

Farm News

NIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 10, 1952

Nursery Catalogs Help Solve Landscape Problems

Don't let those new spring nursery catalogs, with all their attractive pictures, sell you plants you don't really want or need!

H. R. Kemmerer, extension landscape specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says nursery catalogs can be a big help in planning your spring landscape improvements and selecting the right plants. But they have to be used wisely.

Here are some ways in which you can make the catalogs work for you:

Order catalogs from several nurseries, including a local one, to get a good cross-section of the many ornamental plants available.

Be sure each plant you order will grow in your locality. Catalogs usually list the zones of the country where their plants will thrive. And, of course, plants grown in your local nursery will be adapted to growing conditions in your area.

Before you select any plants, decide where you want them and what purpose they will serve. Some purposes of plants are to provide shade; to frame the view from the street and front windows; to

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provide background for the house; to screen out unsightly views; to create privacy; to make the house blend in with the landscape; and to add interest to the grounds through a variation of flower color, foliage cover, winter bark and fruit effects.

After you have selected the locations for the various plants, check the soil, exposure, or other growing conditions in these spots. Then see which plants will grow best under those particular conditions. Most catalogs include lists of plants adapted to certain conditions. Or you may find the information you need in the description of the plant itself.

Finally, check the descriptions of height, shape and season of bloom of each plant to make sure it is adapted to the use you want it to serve. Cross off your list the ones which will not suit the location or the purpose you have planned. From there on, choosing the right plants for the right places is easy.

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Study Ways to Milk Better and Easier

A well-designed milking room with loose housing can save nearly one-third of the time and labor spent on each cow in a stall barn.

That's what tests have actually shown on Illinois dairy farms, says Thayer Cleaver, USDA agricultural engineer on the staff at the Illinois College of Agriculture

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Milking rooms with loose housing are faster and easier for milking because they require fewer operators and they can be easily changed to meet your own situation.

The tests show that if you have fewer than 10 cows it will probably be best to operate your milking room with two elevated stalls and one milking machine. With two milking machines and two elevated stalls, one man can handle from 10 to 30 cows. But other limitations usually make this combination best for about 10-15 cows.

Actually, results of the tests indicate that one operator can handle up to 30 cows efficiently in a milking room. But he would need two milking machines and four elevated stalls, or three elevated stalls, piped milk and three machine heads.

Here, again, a stop watch tells only part of the story. If the stalls are arranged in a line, you can operate best when there are only three. To be most effective, four stalls must be arranged in a U-shape.

Good balance between operator, equipment, and herd size in a stall barn could be obtained by having one operator using two bucket-type milking machines in a 10- to 30-stall barn. The operator should carry the milk immediately and directly to the milk room.

Two operators using three milking machines and handling the milk in the same way would provide an efficient unit in a well-arranged 20- to 40- stall barn. If the barn is not well arranged, a third operator may be necessary.

You can get plans for efficient arrangement of dairy structures by writing to the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois, Urbana.

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3-5-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 10, 1952

Good Eggs Depend on Good Feed

Orange-colored egg yolks may be rich in minerals and vitamins, but the average consumer wants medium-colored yolks.

Sam Ridlen, extension poultryman at the Illinois College of Agriculture, reminds egg producers that the color of an egg depends on the hen's diet. If you're producing eggs for the quality market, watch your flock's rations to keep all the eggs from having too highly colored yolks.

Hens that have free access to range usually have darker yolks, Ridlen says. Also, hens on range show more variation in yolk color--some dark and some light. Consumers want eggs that have the same medium color.

Satisfy the consumer demand for eggs by keeping your hens confined to the laying house. Laying hens that roam the range and eat lots of green grass produce dark-colored yolks that have a strong flavor. Besides preferring a medium-colored yolk, quality-minded consumers like a mild flavor in eggs.

Another quality factor in eggs is a strong shell. Give your hens plenty of calcium in their ration to build strong shells. Most common source of calcium for laying hens is oyster shells ground in the mash or fed free-choice. Ground limestone in the mash is another important source of calcium.

High summer temperatures tend to lower the blood calcium level in hens, resulting in thinner shells. Bronchitis or Newcastle disease or the use of sulfanilamide in the ration will also cause egg shells to be thinner.

To make it possible for your flock to get enough to eat, provide at least one 10-foot feeder for every 100 hens. Allow two 5-gallon waterers or one automatic fountain for every 100 hens.

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3-5-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 10, 1952

Illinois Turkey Breeders Whip Pullorum Disease

Buying pullorum-free turkey eggs and hatching them in pullorum-free hatcheries is how Illinois turkey breeders have whipped pullorum disease, declares Dr. J. O. Alberts, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

"Ninety five percent of the flocks tested under the Illinois Turkey Growers' Association plan this year were pullorum free," Dr. Alberts says. "For the past four years about 25 percent of the flocks have been free of the disease."

Dr. Alberts cited the turkey breeders and hatcherymen for their united effort to eradicate pullorum disease. Plans for making this attack were made last year at a meeting of the turkey growers of the state.

Members of the association drew up a strict pullorum disease eradication plan. Much of its success is credited to the fact that the pullorum-controlled classification of the National Turkey Improvement Plan was discarded in Illinois, and only the pullorum-clean and pullorum-passed flocks were recognized.

Thirty-eight turkey flocks with 16,000 birds were tested this year by the veterinary college. Thirty-six of the flocks were free of pullorum disease on the first test, and two flocks were free on the second test.

Turkey raisers will demand pullorum-free turkey poults in the future because they have increased livability, Dr. Alberts believes. In addition, he says that flocks that are free of pullorum disease produce a more uniform, profitable and high-quality bird.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 10, 1952

Spraying Brush Aids Reforestation

Give new trees and seedlings a chance to grow by removing brush from your forest planting sites. Chemical sprays will do the job effectively.

Ralph W. Lorenz, research forester at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that spraying with 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T mixtures has almost eliminated mixed brush from a planting site in Hancock county.

Two types of sprays were applied in the Hancock county experiment--foliage and basal. For the foliage spray, 3 to 4 pounds of the acid mixture were used in each 100 gallons of water. For spraying the base of the brush, the mixture consisted of 16 pounds of 2,4,5-T acid in each 100 gallons of kerosene, fuel or distillate.

Less sprouting may result if foliage sprays are applied after the leaves have fully matured in the middle of the summer. Basal sprays may be applied throughout the year, but are most practical during the dormant period.

Lorenz cautions you to make every effort to keep these sprays off desirable plants during both summer and winter.

You can use a regular farm crop sprayer for the work. Any pump that will develop pressures up to 100 pounds per square inch will work, including most of the rotary pumps that can be mounted on the takeoff shafts of tractors. You can mount the sprayer on the rear of your tractor and use a gasoline drum as a tank.

Use the regular wide weed spray booms in the folded-up position so that the spray will cover a bush up to 12 feet high. Anything that can't be reached from the tractor can be sprayed with a 50- or 75-foot hose line with a hand gun or nozzle. A three-way valve is necessary for separate use of the hand gun on either side of the folded boom.

Results of the experiment showed that a respray a year later reduced sprouting to a minimum.

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3-5-52

for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 17, 1952

Many Trees Still Available for Reforestation

Illinois farmers interested in reforestation can still get plenty of trees in several varieties.

W. F. Bulkley, extension forester at the Illinois College of Agriculture, lists some of the trees available now from the Illinois Department of Conservation division of forestry.

Farmers in southern Illinois can still get loblolly, shortleaf, Virginia and pitch pines; cottonwoods and soft maples; and multiflora rose. Bulkley recommends grade 1 of the multiflora rose.

Not so many varieties are available for northern and central Illinois, but nurseries of the Illinois division of forestry still have plenty of Jack and pitch pines. If the soil is good, white pine will thrive any place in the state.

In the hardwoods, black locust, cottonwood, soft maple, red gum, sycamore and multiflora rose are still plentiful.

If your soil is eroded, on a washed area or on a south slope, Bulkley recommends Jack or pitch pine or, especially in southern Illinois, Virginia pine.

For more information, price lists and order blanks, write to the Department of Forestry, University of Illinois, Urbana.

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3-12-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 17, 1952

Feed Antibiotics to Pigs During Early Growing Period

You'll get better gains for your money if you feed antibiotics in swine rations during the early period of growth--from weaning to 100 pounds liveweight.

D. E. Becker, swine specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that antibiotics are not so effective before or after the growing-fattening stage.

Tests at the College of Agriculture show that antibiotics are not beneficial to baby pigs when added to the ration of brood sows during gestation and lactation. They don't seem to be harmful, but they are not recommended. And pigs fed antibiotics from 100 to 200 pounds liveweight have shown only about a 5 percent increase in gains.

Here are the rates of gain Becker says you can expect from growing-fattening pigs--up to 100 pounds liveweight:

Antibiotics in the ration of healthy growing-fattening pigs increase the rate of gain from 10 to 20 percent, largely because the pigs eat more feed.

But adding antibiotics to the rations of unhealthy pigs may boost average daily gains 100 percent or more. Unhealthy pigs show this greater response because antibiotics cut down the incidence of intestinal disorders, including scours, diarrhea and certain forms of enteritis.

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3-11-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 17, 1952

Brucellosis Testing in Illinois Swine Doubles in 1951

Nearly twice as many hogs were tested for brucellosis in Illinois during 1951 as during 1950, a University of Illinois veterinarian reported this week.

Dr. G. T. Woods of the College of Veterinary Medicine says Illinois farmers had a record high of 30,023 breeding swine tested for brucellosis during 1951. In contrast, only 15,862 swine were tested during 1950.

Although more hogs were tested in 1951, only 8 percent of them showed signs of brucellosis infection. More than 12 percent of those tested in 1950 were either reactors or suspects.

The county with the largest number of swine tested was Henry county with 2,902. No swine were tested in six counties.

"This increase in brucellosis testing is a step in the right direction," Dr. Woods states. "But many thousands more boars, sows and gilts must be tested each year and eradication programs put into effect before there can be any hope of stamping brucellosis out of Illinois swine herds."

The increase of brucellosis testing is credited to the new state law which requires boars to be tested and free of brucellosis before they can be sold. The law has brought a new "brucellosis-conscious attitude" on the part of many swine breeders.

The importance of eradicating brucellosis from Illinois swine cannot be overemphasized, Dr. Woods adds. The disease often causes storms of abortions and breeding failures in sows. And in humans it causes the severe disease known as undulant fever.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 17, 1952

Annual Swine Growers' Day at Urbana April 10

Date of Illinois Swine Growers' Day at the University of Illinois, Urbana, this year is April 10.

S. W. Terrill, head of the swine division at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, in announcing the date says that this year's program will feature what's new in swine feeding.

Illinois farmers right now will be especially interested in hearing about the practical aspects of feeding artificial milk to pigs.

Other reports of research in swine feeding at the college will include supplementing high-protein corn, results of creep-feeding experiments, protein studies and antibiotic studies with growing-fattening pigs.

Two Iowa hog men will be on the program to tell some of the latest things swine producers are doing in that state to get more economic production. Robert Buck, master hog producer from Ainsworth Iowa, will tell about hog raising in Washington county, Iowa. Damon Catron, head of the swine division at Iowa State College, will tell what's new in swine feeding there.

In the only shift away from feeding on the program, L. E. Johnson, Bureau of Animal Industry of the U. S. Department of Agricul ture, will tell about new milestones in animal breeding research.

If you want to look at the swine experiments now under way at the college, you'll have a chance to tour the swine farm from 8 until 9:30 a.m. Other sessions will be in the auditorium. Plans are complete to handle an overflow crowd so that everyone will have a sea and be able to hear the program.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 17, 1952

A Clean Farm Is A Safer Farm

For safety's sake, extend spring housecleaning to your whole farmstead.

Rural safety specialists at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture report that tools, bags of feed, buckets and just common trash are responsible for hospitalizing one out of every five farm accident victims.

Not only that! Studies from the Illinois Rural Safety Council show that, next to poor judgment, disorder is the largest single cause of injuries.

Inside and out, get rid of trash, paper, scattered boxes and boards, rags and rubbish. They're serious fire hazards and ideal breeding places for rats.

Tear down and dispose of broken, wobbly steps which can cripple someone for life.

Remove old, tottery buildings on your farmstead. In the first place, they certainly don't add to the beauty of your farm. Besides that, they're often the cause of serious injuries.

Throw out unmarked bottles of poison, and don't take chances even on clearly marked poisons. Be absolutely sure they're out of the reach of your children and animals.

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3-12-52

for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 24, 1952

Illinois 4-H Members Participate in Eight National Awards Programs

Illinois 4-H members in 1952 will take part in eight national awards programs, all more than 15 years old.

Montgomery Ward sponsors the oldest award program--the girls' record--now in its 30th year. The other awards are: Mrs. Ruth Kerr's canning award, 23rd year; Kelvinator's food preparation, 18th year; Westinghouse's farm and home electric, 17th year; Edward Foss Wilson's leadership, 16th year; Lederle Laboratories' dairy achievement, 16th year; and Mrs. Charles Walgreen's award for beautification of home grounds, 15th year.

Honor medals or ribbons are awarded to county winners for outstanding achievement in these fields, according to Miss Anna Searl and E. I. Pilchard, state leaders of girls' and boys' 4-H Club work, respectively. State winners receive a bond or trip award, sectional winners attend National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago and national winners receive $300 college scholarships.

In 1950, over 2,661,000 4-H boys and girls throughout the country enrolled in these eight programs which have helped spread 4-H popularity. That large figure indicates that many 4-H'ers enrolled in several of the programs during the same year.

Your county farm or home adviser will have more complete information on these programs, which are sponsored by the Extension Service.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 24, 1952

How Much Protein Do Swine Need?

Recent tests indicate that well-balanced swine rations may not require so much protein as has been recommended.

That's what S. W. Terrill, head of the swine division at the Illinois College of Agriculture, will tell visitors at the annual Illinois Swine Growers' Day on April 10 at Urbana.

Actually, it is the amino acids in protein that are essential for growth and maintenance, gestation and lactation in swine, Terrill says. You don't have to worry too much about whether your pigs are getting enough of the amino acids so long as you are feeding them a balanced ration containing soybean oil meal and other well-balanced protein sources.

Latest research at the Illinois Experiment Station in Urbana has been designed to find out just how much protein swine need in their rations for most efficient growth. Terrill will report on these experiments during the morning program.

Another discussion of interest and importance to Illinois swine growers on the program will cover the latest work at the college on feeding artificial milk to baby pigs. There are several commercial artificial milk products now on the market, and many farmers are confused about how valuable they are in swine rations.

Robert Buck, Iowa, master hog producer, will bring out-of-state experience when he tells about hog raising in Washington county, Iowa. Damon Catron, head of the swine division at Iowa State College, and L. E. Johnson, Bureau of Animal Industry, USDA, will also discuss swine feeding and breeding problems.

You'll have a chance to look at research in progress at the swine farm from 8 until 9:30 a.m. Program starts in the auditorium at 10:00 a.m.

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-19-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 24, 1952

Broilers Profitable for Midwestern Poultryman

Broiler production can be a good money-maker for midwestern poultrymen.

S. F. Ridlen, extension poultryman at the Illinois College of Agriculture, lists some of the reasons why midwestern states offer farmers top-notch opportunities to produce broilers profitably:

No other section of the country can come near the hatchery capacity of this area.

No other region can produce feed in such large amounts.

Some of the country's finest processing plants with the necessary know-how are located in the Midwest.

Large cities, plus local possibilities which still need to be developed, offer excellent market outlets.

Although some poultrymen grow broilers on a full-time scale, broiler production also offers many advantages to the part-time grower. If he produces broilers during the winter, he can take advantage of the slack work season and place his birds on the market when prices are generally favorable. Then, too, he can use his poultry buildings and equipment to produce broilers when he isn't brooding pullets for layers or turkey poults.

By using good chickens, good feed, and good management, and by following a sound marketing program, the part-time broiler grower can add considerably to his income from other farm enterprises.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 24, 1952

Chemicals Used on Farms May Poison Livestock

Lead, hydrocyanic acid and lead arsenate are three of the top chemical killers of farm livestock, says Dr. R. P. Link, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

Lead paints are the most frequent offenders, Dr. Link states. The paint never loses its poisonous properties, even though it has been on a board for 20 years. Animals licking or chewing such paint are likely to be poisoned.

Other sources of lead are discarded paint buckets and the lead plates of discarded storage batteries or dry cells.

Lead arsenate used in spraying fruit trees is a serious hazard to livestock health if it is handled carelessly. It sometimes causes losses when the spray collects on pasture grasses or in ponds that are used as a water supply for livestock.

Hydrocyanic acid in Sudan grass or wild cherry trees is also deadly. Livestock should not graze Sudan grass that has been stunted by drouth, frost or trampling until the new growth is more than eight inches high. Leaves of wild cherry trees are most dangerous when the branches are broken and the leaves begin to wilt.

Some of the weed killers, including 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T, have been incriminated in livestock losses, Dr. Link says. These chemicals are relatively nonpoisonous, but they do cause changes in some plants which make them much more poisonous than they were before they were sprayed.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 24, 1952

Vapor Barriers Protect Insulation From Moisture

You'll get longer life and better service from your home insulation if you install a vapor barrier to protect it from moisture.

J. T. Clayton and G. F. Sauer, agricultural engineers at the University of Illinois, say that, while dew will not form on the walls and ceiling of a well-insulated house, it may condense on insulation in walls or on sheathing or siding.

In time this dampness may cause the wood to rot, the paint to peel and the value of the insulation to drop.

Although some insulations come with vapor-proof paper or foil on them, ordinary tar paper and roofing felts are not vapor-proof and will not serve as vapor barriers.

Generally, vapor barriers come in two forms: paint and membrane. Membrane barriers are much more effective and long lasting than paint barriers, but usually they must be installed when the house is built. Paint barriers can be applied at any time.

One of the best paint barriers is a mixture of aluminum paint and spar varnish. Apply paint barriers to inside surfaces of walls and the underside of ceilings. Put an asphalt-base paint only in places where it won't show, because it's hard to paint over.

There are three common membrane barriers: shiny-surfaced, asphalt-treated kraft paper or felt; smooth-surfaced roll roofing: and metal foil. Apply the membrane barrier to the inside of studs, underneath the inside wall finish. Fasten it carefully around all openings, and lap and seal the edges to keep vapor from getting through to the insulation.

When correctly installed, a good membrane vapor barrier will last the life of the house.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 24, 1952

Check Sump Pump Switches and Pit Drain

Nothing can be more useless than a sump pump that is under water in a flooded basement.

Frank Andrew, extension agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture, suggests that, before that happens to you this spring, you check to see that your pump is able to operate right.

If your sump pump has not operated since last spring or summer, it may be unable to start because of corrosion or dirt. Fill the sump with a hose to see whether the float will turn on the switch, or lift the float with your hand to see that the switch is not corroded or the float guide stuck, and that the motor starts.

If your pressure water system is installed in a pump pit, check to be sure it is in good operating condition too. Most such systems probably operate all through the winter without excess water accumulating in the pit. However, spring thaws and rains increase the likelihood that water may filter into the pit.

Be sure the pit drain is open and able to carry off any excess water. Andrew says that if the electric pump ever gets covered with water, there is a good chance that it will ruin the motor.

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Farm News

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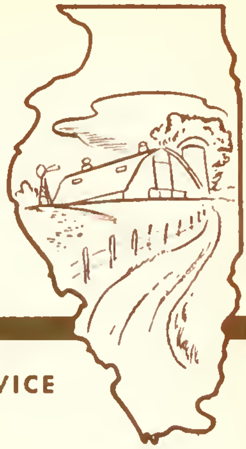

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 31, 1952

4-H'ers Compete for Public Speaking Awards

Illinois 4-H Club members will take part in the 4-H public speaking awards program this year for the first time.

Miss Anna Searl and E. I. Pilchard, state leaders of home economics and agriculture 4-H Clubs in Illinois respectively, say that learning how to speak in public can help the members with every other 4-H Club activity or project.

They expect several hundred Illinois club members to take advantage of the training in speaking that this program offers.

Awards sponsored by the Pure Oil company will provide additional incentive to learn how to speak well. The top-rating boy and girl in each participating county will receive a blue ribbon. The girl who wins highest honors in the state will get a set of silverware, while the outstanding boy in the state will receive a 17-jewel wrist watch.

Two national winners will be awarded college scholarships of $300 each and an educational trip to the 31st National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November. All 28 states conducting the program this year are eligible to submit candidates for these two national awards.

See your county farm or home adviser for more information about the public speaking program or about joining a 4-H Club.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 31, 1952

Chemicals Will Not Remove Stumps

Removing tree stumps from your home grounds can be easier than you think. But don't depend on the so-called "sure-fire" chemical removers.

C. S. Walters, forest utilization specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that although chemical stump removers are used frequently, they simply don't do the job.

The Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station has tested several chemicals, including some that were advertised as "sure fire." But none worked satisfactorily. Acids were not tested in the Illinois experiments, but other experiments have shown that sulphuric and nitric acids are of absolutely no value.

Walters recommends three ways of getting rid of stumps which do work.

Cheapest and easiest, but not the quickest way to remove stumps is to rot them out. Cut the stump at or below the ground level, cover it with soil and keep the soil moist. You can speed up the rotting process by boring several vertical holes in the stump before you cover it with soil. This method works any time during the year.

Burning out stumps is another good method. Remove the top and bottom from a 5-gallon paint can, or some metal container about that size, and place it on top of the stump. Build a fire of coke, charcoal or coal in the can, using kindling wood to start the blaze. As the fire burns the wood on one part of the stump, move the can to

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a new place. Better use coke or charcoal for the fire. They will make less smoke--and keep your neighbors happier. Stumps burn best during dry periods of the year.

Another way to remove stumps is to dig them out. Grubbing or digging out a stump is hard work, but it can be done. Here's how: Dig a trench about two feet deep around the stump near the point where the roots enter the ground. Cut the roots with an axe or a grub hoe as close as practical to the stump. Roll or slide the stump out of the hole, but don't try to lift it out.

Use your tractor or automobile and a heavy tow chain or cable to pull out bigger stumps. If possible, leave about 4 or 5 feet of trunk on the stump, and fasten the tow chain as near the top as practical. This extra length on the stump will act as a lever to help you break off the remaining uncut roots.

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Make Landscape Plan for Attractive Home Grounds

A landscape plan is as vital to attractive home grounds as an architect's blueprint is to sound building.

H. R. Kemmerer, landscape specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says the first step in developing a plan for landscape arrangement is to make a scale drawing of your home grounds just as they are.

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This drawing should show the exact locations and sizes of all permanent objects--the house, garage, walks, drive, trees and shrubs, flower gardens and vegetable gardens.

Next, divide your grounds into three areas--public, service and private.

The public area, which lies between the street and the house, might contain a large open lawn, a foundation planting to make the house blend with the rest of the landscape, and a few trees to provide framing and shade for the front of the house. The lawn area should give an open view of the house--the center of interest of the whole plan.

The service area is made up of the garage, drive, incinerator, clothes-drying area and walk to the kitchen. Since the kitchen is the starting point of nearly every job connected with running a home, all parts of this service area should be easy to get to from the kitchen door.

The private area is sometimes called the outdoor living room. It might include a patio, flower and vegetable gardens, children's play area and a large open lawn.

It's a good idea to plant trees and shrubs to separate the private area from the other areas and from the neighbors. The planting will serve as a screen and provide shade and color for family enjoyment.

The next problem in planning the landscaping of your home grounds is to choose the right plants for each location. This is one of the hardest jobs, and you'll probably need outside help with it.

Kemmerer suggests that you get hold of some good publications on ornamental trees and shrubs. These will be a big help in selecting plants that will give different texture effects, provide bloom from early spring to late fall, have winter interest and still give the desired shade and screening.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 31, 1952

Front Tractor Wheels May Need New Grease

You'll need to repack the front wheel bearings on your farm tractor if you used it very much last winter.

Wendell Bowers, extension agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that winter mud and moisture can break the oil seal and ruin the front wheel bearings if you neglect them.

Bowers suggests these tips for servicing the bearings:

1. Take off one front wheel at a time, and thoroughly clean the bearings, hub and spindle with kerosene or fuel oil.
2. Repack with a good-quality wheel bearing grease only. Never use gun grease.
3. Replace the dust seal if it is worn or broken. If the inner bearing does not come off easily, place a layer of grease on the outside of the bearing all the way around, and press it in by twisting a clean rag around it in tourniquet fashion.
4. Replace the wheel. Do not put any grease inside the wheel housing unless specified by the manufacturer in the owner's manual.
5. To pack the outside bearing, place about one-half cup of grease in the palm of your left hand. Hold the bearing in your right hand with the open end down, and force grease up into the bearing. Rotate the bearing until grease shows all the way around at the top.
6. Replace the outside bearing, washer and castellated nut. Tighten the nut until the wheel grabs when you spin it. Back off the nut one castellation, and put in the cotter pin.

Front wheel bearings will probably need servicing only once a year unless you use them in the winter.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MARCH 31, 1952

Iowa Master Hog Producer Will Talk at Swine Growers' Day

Here are some tips on care of baby pigs from a swine grower who really knows his business--Robert Buck, master hog producer from Ainsworth, Iowa.

Buck is scheduled to outline his whole swine production program--a highly successful program--at the annual Illinois Swine Growers' Day April 10 at Urbana. He plans to illustrate his talk with colored slides.

For top-notch results from baby pigs, Buck relies on these practices: clean bed and pen; creep feeding--first rolled or hulled oats, then shelled corn and protein or pig meal; vaccination for erysipelas at 2 weeks; castration at 3 or 4 weeks; vaccination for cholera at 6 weeks; and weaning at 8 weeks.

Other highlights of the day's program will include talks and demonstrations on practical aspects of feeding artificial milk to baby pigs, latest research results in animal breeding and recent work in protein and antibiotic feeding.

From 8 to 9:30 a.m., swine growers will have a chance to inspect the University of Illinois swine farm. The program will begin in the auditorium at 10 a.m.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 7, 1952

Illinois Accents New 4-H Awards Program

In 1952 Illinois 4-H'ers will take part in a new national awards program on 4-H bread demonstration.

Miss Anna Searl, state leader of home economics 4-H clubs, says members who enroll in the course will learn and show others how to make bread, rolls and other baked foods.

Miss Searl points out that by giving these demonstrations 4-H'ers develop greater poise, confidence, leadership and speaking ability. By watching other demonstrators, they pick up new ideas and methods.

One phase of the program is devoted to learning the importance of bread and baked foods in family nutrition.

Standard Brands, Inc., provides the awards for the programs. Honor medals go to county winners, both individuals and team members. Each state winner--individual or team member--receives a $50 U. S. savings bond.

Your county home adviser will have more information on this new program, which is supervised by the Cooperative Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 7, 1952

Beware of L. P. Gas Tractor Conversions

Now that more factory-made L. P. (liquified petroleum) gas tractors are available, think twice before you convert your present tractor to burn L. P. gas.

Wendell Bowers, extension farm machinery specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says it's much better to buy a ready-made L. P. gas tractor than to try to convert your own.

Some conversion units now on the market are inexpensive, consisting only of mounting a pressure tank on the tractor and tapping into the carburetor. However, Bowers points out that a conversion of this type is not at all practical. Your tractor will not have more power, it may start hard and it might miss under heavy loads. The fuel saving over gasoline is very slight.

It is not practical to use L. P. gas for a tractor fuel unless you are using or plan to use it for such other purposes as heating or cooking.

Make sure that your present tractor meets the following specifications before you convert to L. P. gas:

1. Most important of all, any conversion unit should be approved by the company that made your tractor.

2. The unit must raise the compression ratio to at least 6.7 to 1 for better fuel economy and more power.

3. You'll need to use a cold manifold with no hot spots.

Bowers also suggests that you use a liquid withdrawal system from the tractor tank to the carburetor vaporizer.

L. P. gas burns cleaner and causes less wear on a tractor engine, but at the present time it is not too practical for the average farmer.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 7, 1952

Illinois Maple Syrup Production Limited, But High in Quality

The quantity of maple syrup produced in Illinois is limited, but its quality ranks with the best in the nation.

J. N. Spaeth, head of the department of forestry, Illinois College of Agriculture, says only about 2.2 percent of the trees in Illinois woodlands are sugar maples. But the several thousand gallons of syrup produced each year in Illinois make up most of the 100 percent-pure maple syrup consumed in the state.

Much of the syrup sold in Illinois is not 100 percent pure. This syrup, commonly 15 percent maple and 85 percent cane,is imported from other "sugar bush" states.

Spaeth says that maple syrup production in Illinois could be boosted by fuller use of sugar maples already standing in farm woodlots. Then, too, since maples seed abundantly, their actual number could be increased by favoring their growth and reproduction and by holding back other varieties in the same stand.

Even though the number of sugar maples is limited, producing maple syrup in Illinois today is a profitable off-season business.

The profits vary with each operation, but Spaeth reports that even in 1947 figures from 20 farms showed an average hourly labor return per man of $2.08, after deducting all costs and equipment. depreciation. The most efficient operation netted $3.78 an hour for each man!

The requirements for profitable operations vary too. In general, though, Spaeth says a farmer should have at least 500, and preferably 1,000, sugar maples in his woodlot. For satisfactory operation, one out of every four trees in the lot should be maples.

The cost? According to Spaeth, an investment of about $2,000 is required for operations on a profitable scale.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 7, 1952

Get Top Wool Price With Clean Fleece

In spite of the fact that wool prices are lower this year than last year, it is just as important that you aim for the top market price by producing clean fleece.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that you can lose 10 cents or more a pound in discounts on burry, seedy, chaffy or dirty wool when you sell it.

First requirement for high-quality wool production is good management. Feed your sheep a well-balanced ration in the winter, and provide plenty of high-quality pasture in the summer. Control external parasites by dipping your sheep a week or 10 days after shearing, after shear cuts have healed.

Carlisle says the second important factor is good shearing. To produce high-quality fleece, you'll need to take few second cuts, throw out all tags and be sure not to shear unless the sheep are dry. Shear in a clean place, free from chaff and dirt.

Best time to shear sheep to get the top fleece is before they go onto pasture in the spring. There'll be fewer tags then.

Always tie your fleece with paper twine. Any other material will leave threads in the wool which will discount its value at the market. Store wool in a clean, dry place. Every year some wool is needlessly damaged because it is stored on cement which is in contact with the ground. Wool will draw moisture through the cement.

If you're going to keep your wool for any length of time, be sure to watch for signs of moth damage. Moths can be just as destructive to your bulk wool as they are to finished woolens.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 7, 1952

Be On Guard Against Anthrax

Illinois livestockmen are urged to be on guard against anthrax.

Dr. P. D. Beamer, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says practicing veterinarians in Illinois have identified anthrax on 57 farms since last August. The veterinary college and other laboratories have confirmed the outbreaks.

Counties that have reported anthrax include Champaign, DeWitt, Douglas, Edwards, Effingham, Logan, Macon, Macoupin, Menard, McLean, McDonough, Sangamon, Vermilion and Will.

Tests made by the veterinary college have revealed anthrax spores in a sample of imported bone meal, Dr. Beamer says.

Anthrax can strike nearly all farm livestock, including cattle, swine, horses, and sheep. In Illinois more than 90 percent of the outbreaks have been in swine--the rest have been in cattle. The disease may also cause a severe infection in man.

In livestock anthrax often hits fast, causing deaths before the farmer knows his animals are sick. Swine often have a severe swelling in the neck region, although some die suddenly without showing any symptoms.

Contact your veterinarian and avoid handling sick or dead animals if you suspect anthrax, Dr. Beamer advises. Anthrax may spread to persons who handle sick or dead animals or their discharges.

According to practicing veterinarians, penicillin and large doses of antianthrax serum are helpful in treating animals suffering from anthrax. Antianthrax serum is also valuable in preventing anthrax in healthy, exposed animals.

Other states reporting anthrax are Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Tennessee, Florida and California. Four humans have been infected in Ohio, Indiana, Florida and California.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 7, 1952

Use Care When Lifting Heavy Objects

Think before you lift those heavy weights around the farm. Your health and safety are at stake.

Rural safety specialists at the Illinois College of Agriculture say that each year thousands of farm people are victims of sprains, strains, hernias and other injuries resulting from lifting. Most of these injuries could have been avoided with a little care and foresight.

Illinois Rural Safety Council records show the most common causes of lifting injuries are:

1. lifting and lowering with the back muscles;
2. insecure grip or footing--placing hands or feet in unsafe positions;
3. using quick, jerking, twisting or awkward body movements;
4. obstructed vision, unsteady loads, not enough control;
5. lack of enough help and failure to use mechanical aids.

It's wise to examine all of your farm lifting jobs with a critical eye. Often you can rearrange your work to cut down the amount of lifting. Look for chances to use simple and safe mechanical aids, such as rope hoists, wooden skids, hand trucks or inexpensive conveyors.

Don't bend at the waist when you're reaching down to lift something. Lifting in that position puts a severe strain on sensitive back and stomach muscles. For your own health's sake, bend your knees and keep your back straight when you pick up an object.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 14, 1952

New Hog Cholera Vaccines Tested by University

The results of critical tests of three new hog cholera vaccines on 60 pigs were reported this week by Dr. P. D. Beamer, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

"Each of the vaccines protected the pigs against artificial exposure to hog cholera eight days after vaccination," Dr. Beamer states. Pigs exposed to hog cholera on the fourth and sixth days after vaccination developed symptoms of the disease and were set back in their growth.

He says it appears that the new vaccines are incapable of causing outbreaks of hog cholera. There was no evidence from the University tests that the disease could spread from pigs vaccinated with the new vaccines to unvaccinated pigs in the same pens.

All three of the new hog cholera vaccines are now available from the manufacturers. Two of them are recommended for use without anti-hog-cholera serum.

Practicing veterinarians point out that the new vaccines must be used according to the manufacturers' directions, Dr. Beamer says. He adds that the vaccines can be used only to prevent hog cholera. There still is no cure for the disease.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 14, 1952

Small Pigs Like Cracked Hulled Oats Best

"I'd bake them cookies if it would make them eat any sooner."

That's how one Knox county swine grower tells how important he thinks it is to get baby pigs to eat as early as possible. However, you don't have to bake cookies to get baby pigs to eat.

Dick Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that a creep test by the swine division at the college shows that baby pigs "go" best for cracked hulled oats.

Pigs on the test ate 158 pounds of oats, which were 43.8 percent or nearly half of all feed eaten, Carlisle says. Seventeen different feeds were offered free choice in the creep-feeding test so that the pigs could eat all they wanted.

A combination of rolled oats and dried molasses in a 75-25 percent mixture was second most popular choice, with 73.5 pounds eaten for 20.4 percent of the total. Pig starter ration was third, with the pellets more popular than the meal. The pigs ate 52 pounds of pellets and 31 pounds of meal.

Another mixture of 75 percent dry skim milk and 25 percent dried molasses ranked next, with 25 pounds eaten. Shelled corn, rolled oats, dry skim milk, meat scraps, solvent soybean oil meal and ground corn were among the less popular feeds. Amounts eaten ranged downward from 4 pounds for the shelled corn to 1 pound for the ground corn.

From this test, it appears that baby pigs like pelleted feed better than the same feed as meal. They also seem to like a feed which includes a source of sugar better than the same feed without sugar.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 14, 1952

"Bleaching" Good Test for Hen's Production

One of the best ways to cull the loafers from your hen flock is to watch the color of their skin.

S. F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says "bleaching" in yellow-skinned hens is a good indication of the length of time a hen has been in production--up to six months.

Here's the way it works: Pigment from yellow corn and green foliage is deposited in the fat of a young chicken's skin. But once laying begins, the pigment goes directly from the feed to the ovary to color the yolk. As long as the hen is laying, the skin continues to lose its yellow color until it is completely bleached.

This bleaching process follows an orderly pattern that is easy to notice. Yellow color leaves the vent in seven to 10 days after the hen starts laying. It leaves the eye ring after two weeks, the earlobes in three weeks, the beak in six weeks, the front of the shanks in 18 weeks, and finally the heel of the shanks in 20 to 24 weeks.

The yellow pigment leaves the backs of the hocks and the tops of the toes last. Then, when production stops, the color returns to the various parts of the chicken's skin in the same order it bleached, but much faster.

By checking the present stage of bleaching, you can tell how long the hen has been in production. And by noting the degree of pigment return in the hen's skin, you can pick out the nonproducers who aren't earning their feed.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 14, 1952

Illinois Renews 4-H Garden and Home Improvement Programs

This year Illinois 4-H'ers will again have a chance to take part in two 4-H national awards programs--the garden and home improvement programs--designed for both boys and girls.

E. I. Pilchard and Miss Anna Searl, state leaders of boys' and girls' 4-H Club work in Illinois, report that awards for outstanding achievements in both programs remain the same as last year.

On the county level, four medals of honor are given in each program. The state winner of either program will get an all-expense trip to National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November and a chance to become a candidate for one of the eight national awards--$300 college scholarships.

Allis-Chalmers provides the garden program awards, and the Sears-Roebuck Foundation finances the home improvement program awards.

Last year 290 4-H boys and girls in 91 Illinois counties received medals for their garden records, and 177 members in 60 Illinois counties won similar awards for home improvement achievements.

Both programs will again be supervised by the Extension Service of the Illinois College of Agriculture. For more information about the programs, see your county farm or home adviser.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 14, 1952

Transplanting Evergreens Requires Special Care

You don't need a "green thumb" to transplant evergreens. But a little extra effort and the right care often make the difference between success and failure.

H. R. Kemmerer, extension landscape specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, offers these suggestions to make your transplanting a success.

First of all, the best time for transplanting is in the spring, from the time the ground is dry enough to work until the leaves begin developing.

Pick a clam, humid, cloudy day to do the work, but don't transplant when the soil is wet.

Most evergreen trees and shrubs are balled and burlapped--that is, a ball of earth around the roots is enclosed in a burlap bag. If you can't plant the evergreen the same day it is delivered from the nursery, pack sawdust, peat, straw or dirt around the ball to help cut down moisture loss.

Set the tree at least as deep as it was before transplanting. It's a good idea to dig down another two inches and put some topsoil under the roots.

Leave the burlap on the roots to avoid breaking the ball of earth during planting. It will decay in a year and won't affect root growth.

When you fill the hole, firm the soil around the ball, being careful not to break the ball. After the hole is three-fourths full

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of firmed soil, fill it to ground level with water. When the water has soaked through, fill the rest of the hole with top soil, but don't firm it.

Leave the soil level a little lower than the ground surface to form a catch basin for rain water and the water you add. Then put one-half inch of peat, ground corncobs, or other mulching material on top of the soil around the plant.

If you run into poor subsoil while digging, keep the poorer soil in a pile separate from the topsoil, and don't use it to refill the hole unless you don't have enough topsoil. In that case, thoroughly mix some organic matter and a little complete fertilizer with the subsoil before putting it back into the hole. Never put manure or leaves in the bottom.

You won't need to water an evergreen plant every day after you plant it. Usually a thorough watering--enough to soak down to the roots--once or twice a week for at least a month after planting will assure good root development.

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Farm News

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 21, 1952

How to Spot Hens That Aren't Producing

It's easy to pick the loafers out of your hen flock. And with present egg prices, you can't afford to board them an extra day.

S. F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, offers three ways to tell which hens in your flock are earning their feed and which ones are costing you money.

As a general rule, a laying hen's comb and wattles are large, bright, red, glossy and warm. When a hen goes out of production, her comb darkens, shrivels or shrinks in size and later turns pale and cold, with a covering of white scurf.

The vent of a laying hen is large, moist, dilated, soft and pliable. But the loafer's vent is small and dry--the muscles tightly contracted.

A third way to tell if a hen is laying is to test the distance between the pubic bones. In a laying hen, these bones will be widespread to let the egg pass between them when it is laid. When a hen is not producing, the bones will be much closer together and the tips will tend to curve in toward the center of the body.

Ridlen says these simple tests are very accurate in separating the layers from the loafers.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 21, 1952

Good Planting Helps Blend House and Grounds

Making your house blend with its grounds involves more than just putting plants around the foundation. But the rules for good planting are simple and easy to follow.

H. R. Kemmerer, extension landscape specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says there are three things plantings should do to tie house and grounds together: (1) bring out good architectural points, (2) hide bad design and (3) correct unpleasing proportions.

Kemmerer suggests that you keep the planting design simple to bring out good architectural points. Also, repeat the main lines of your house in the plantings.

If your house has high, perpendicular lines, use tall, pointed plantings for harmony. If its lines are low and horizontal, use low rounded masses of plants. Always keep the plants in scale with the house. For example, tall trees won't look well in front of a low, one-story house.

Hiding bad design in your house isn't difficult. Usually just a tree or shrub placed in front of the poorly designed area will do the trick. To pick out parts with bad design, study your house carefully from the road and take several photographs from different angles.

Two common types of unpleasing proportions are too much height for width and too much width for height. To make a tall

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building look lower, plant tall, slender trees and shrubs close to the house. Tall trees with overhanging foliage will cut down house height.

To broaden the lines of your house, extend the corner plantings beyond the sides of the house. Then plant rounded or horizontal shrubs at the front entrance and connect them with the corner plants by almost continuous planting.

Plant rounded trees and shrubs near a wide building, especially in the rear, to make it look more in proportion to its height. Use corner planting of rounded plants. Tall, vertical plants along the face of the house will help to break the low horizontal lines, but don't put them at the sides. In that position they will make the house look lower and broader by contrast.

Here are a few other suggestions which will make your planting more successful:

Don't use too wide a variety of plants, especially those with off-color foliage. However, evergreens alone are often monotonous.

Don't let the plantings keep out light from your windows.

Keep the front entrance the center of interest--don't crowd it with plants.

Unless the foundation is very unattractive, leave at least part of it unexposed. Otherwise, the house will look rather detached from the grounds.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 21, 1952

Yearling Steers Go On Feed or Pasture

Big question for Illinois cattle feeders now is whether to feed in drylot, feed on pasture or follow the delayed feeding system this summer.

H. G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says steers wintered on roughage rations will need about 6 months on full feed to make prime cattle.

If you have plenty of corn to feed, and started April 1, you can hit the early September market by feeding about 50 bushels of corn for each steer. You'll also need protein supplement at the rate of about one pound to each 9 pounds of shelled corn or equivalent, and 5 to 6 pounds of hay a day for each steer.

On the other hand, if you have plenty of good pasture you can pasture your steers most cheaply without grain for 90-100 days. They should gain about 1 1/2 pounds a day. Finish them for market with 90-100 days' full feed on pasture or drylot--in drylot if the grass is still lush. This system will take about 30 bushels of corn a head.

These cattle won't be as fat, will grade choice instead of prime and won't sell as high as full-fed cattle. But when they are ready for market about mid-November they may make make you more money than cattle fed any other way because of the lower feed costs.

Under the feed on pasture system, you'll need to plan on about 40 bushels of corn for each steer, Russell points out. Put the cattle on full feed of grain before the pasture is ready. Then you can save labor by full-feeding on pasture with a self-feeder.

On good pastures with a good legume mixture, you won't need to feed supplement until August. One-half acre of pasture a steer should be enough. Ordinarily, you should finish your cattle in drylot for four weeks before marketing under this system.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 21, 1952

Guard Chickens Against Coccidiosis

If your chickens were troubled with cecal or intestinal coccidiosis last year, there's a good chance the disease will strike again this year unless you take action to prevent it.

Dr. J. O. Alberts, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says that trouble with coccidiosis year after year suggests that the poultryman may be lax in rotating his yards or ranges and practicing the other important control measures.

To prevent the disease, use sanitary feeders and waterers, prevent crowding and dampness in the houses, and raise the flock on a newly rotated range. Like most diseases, coccidiosis prefers damp, warm surroundings without much sunlight.

Chickens between three and twelve weeks of age seem most susceptible to cecal coccidiosis. Intestinal coccidiosis is not common until the birds are ten weeks or more of age.

Chickens pick the parasites up off contaminated ground, litter or equipment. Then the coccidia start multiplying in the chicken. The more coccidia the chicken eats, the sicker it becomes.

Coccidiosis appears about four days after the parasites have been swallowed. The birds become pale and weak from loss of blood in the droppings. They often sit quietly with eyes closed and wings drooping.

If coccidiosis strikes hard, you can expect death losses, slower growth and lower egg production. Birds that recover are often unthrifty for the rest of their lives.

LEA:bb
4-16-52

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 21, 1952

Agricultural Engineers Make Farming Easier

Agricultural engineers at the University of Illinois are busy making Illinois farms easier, faster and more economical places to produce needed food and fiber.

A large part of this work centers around efforts to improve farm building mechanization. Farm buildings today must be brought to life with electric service, machines and useful design if they are to best serve farm needs.

Deane G. Carter, professor of farm structures at the Illinois College of Agriculture, in charge of the work, points out the top problem involved in the research work. Carter says that no matter how good any individual structure, unit or device may be, it is useful to a farmer only as he can fit it into his own farm's operations.

For instance, automatic handling, grinding and conveying of farm feeds is one of the ways in which Illinois agricultural engineers have been applying engineering methods to improve farm operations. Yet the problem is not completely solved until buildings are designed, located and built to handle automatic equipment most efficiently.

A farmer's problem goes beyond feed grinding and handling. Ie must gather and store his feed supply, condition it against loss r spoilage, process feed and distribute it to his animals and clear way the manure. Research is trying to power, mechanize and make this eries of farm operations as nearly automatic as possible.

Operation improvements have also been made in crop procssing, drying, conditioning and storage, Carter says. Agricultural ngineering research is making dairy housing and operations and meat nimal production continually more efficient and economical.

AJ:bb
-16-52

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 28, 1952

Release New 4-H Tractor Maintenance Film

"Live Power Harvest," a new film about the national 4-H tractor maintenance program, has just been released, according to E. I. Pilchard, state leader of agricultural 4-H Club work.

This 16 mm. movie in sound and color symbolizes the achievements of 18,000 local 4-H Club leaders and 210,000 members who have taken part in the tractor maintenance program since its introduction seven years ago in the midwest.

The Extension Service and the Standard Oil Company of Indiana first introduced the program. Now, through the cooperation of seven other oil companies, it has become nation-wide.

"Live Power Harvest" shows how "care saves repair" of tractors and other farm machinery. It also shows other aspects of the "live power" program--county and state competitions, demonstrations, leadership training schools and club meetings. And the film illus-rates the rewards for high achievement in the program--county medals, ll-expense trips to National 4-H Club Congress, and $300 college cholarships--all provided by the oil companies.

Your local 4-H Club can get prints of the film on a loan asis without charge by writing to the State 4-H Club Office, Mumford all, Urbana.

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-22-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 28, 1952

Tips for Keeping Eggs Clean

Ninety-nine eggs out of 100 are clean when they are laid, but a short time later many of them are dirty. Obviously that is not the hen's fault!

S. F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says perhaps the greatest single cause of dirty eggs is wet litter in the poultry house. And the causes of wet litter include poor ventilation, lack of insulation, overcrowding, spilling of water around the fountains, improper floor construction and too laxative a diet.

Ridlen offers these suggestions to help you keep litter drier, and eggs cleaner.

Allow at least 3 1/2 square feet of floor space for light breeds and 4 square feet for heavy breeds.

Keep plenty of clean, dry litter on the floor, and stir it frequently.

Maintain draft-free ventilation to keep litter dry and protect the health of your flock.

He also suggests that you keep plenty of clean material in the nest. Excelsior, wood shavings and crushed corncobs make good nesting materials, but straw may stain eggs.

Don't let the birds roost in the nests at night.

Cover dropping pits or boards with wire to keep hens from coming into contact with manure.

MCD:bb
4-22-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 28, 1952

Take Care of Winter Electrical Equipment in Summer

Hot summer weather can cause unnecessary wear on your winter electrical heating equipment unless you take care to store it properly.

Frank Andrew, extension farm electric specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, suggests that you store such equipment in a dry place. Moisture can cause a great deal of damage to stored electrical units.

The storage place should also be reasonably cool, if possible, Andrew says. At least, don't store the cords and appliances in an attic where summer temperatures will cause rubber cords and plugs to deteriorate.

Take immersion-type tank heaters out of the tank, clean out all dirt and rust and replace the cord if it is worn or broken. Clean chick-brooding equipment, heat lamps, sockets, cords and plugs with a damp cloth, wipe them dry and then store them away for use again next year.

Cords will keep best if they are stored in uniform, loose coils, laid flat. Do not hang them over nails or sharp corners that may cause breaks in the insulation.

It's also a good time to inspect outside ground rod connections on the electric wiring system for each of your buildings, Andrew points out. Winter snow removal often damages the wires where they are stapled to the sides of buildings.

Ground wires can also be damaged by livestock. It is common to have a connection rooted up by hogs. Examine and replace broken or worn connections to protect your buildings from lightning and yourself from electric shock.

RAJ:bb
4-23-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 28, 1952

Hog-Corn Ratio Could Improve Greatly With Big 1952 Corn Crop

The unusually low hog-corn price ratio which hit Illinois hog raisers last February could change and become very favorable to hog feeders in the winter of 1952-53 if we get a large corn crop this season, says a University of Illinois agricultural economist.

G. L. Jordon adds that any substantial improvement in the hog-corn ratio, from the hog feeder's standpoint, will probably have to wait on the new corn crop.

The national hog-corn ratio in February 1952 was 10.4. Only four times in the past 21 years have price relationships been so unfavorable to hog feeders in February. The 21-year February average is 13.3, with extremes of 8.5 in 1934 and 19.8 in 1947.

Conditions responsible for the unfavorable ratio this February included (1) smaller corn supplies, (2) larger hog marketings, (3) a decline in lard exports at a time when supplies were large and (4) the rapid disappearance of corn because of high moisture content.

None of these things is likely to change before midsummer, but at that time new corn crop prospects will become a factor, says Jordan. Hog prices may strengthen as liquidation of hog numbers stops. But corn prices are also likely to strengthen as supplies are reduced.

However, there is the possibility of further substantial imports of feed grains from Canada--especially the large amount of wheat that stood in Canadian fields over winter. This grain will probably be suitable for feed and will be available for export to us.

JN:bb
-23-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 28, 1952

Three Newcastle Disease Vaccines Are Available

A single Newcastle disease vaccine won't fit every poultryman's needs, just as a single vaccination program isn't best suited for all poultry enterprises.

Dr. J. O. Alberts, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says three types of vaccine are available. Some poultrymen prefer either the live virus vaccine that is injected into the wing web or the live virus vaccine that is given by way of the nose or eye. Other persons prefer killed virus vaccines.

The live virus vaccine that is given by way of the eye or nose is so mild that it can be used on baby chicks. And you can use it on laying hens without seriously affecting egg production. It protects chicks until they are broiler age. Birds that are kept for layers should be revaccinated when they enter the laying house.

An advantage of the live virus vaccine that is injected into the wing web is that it usually produces a lasting immunity. But it can cause some of the symptoms of Newcastle disease. For best results it should be used on birds from one to four months old. It should not be used on laying flocks.

The killed virus vaccine is injected into the muscles of the chicken. It has the advantage of being harmless and unable to produce the disease. However, it produces a variable immunity that sometimes lasts only a short time.

Dr. Alberts says that each of the vaccines will protect your chickens against Newcastle disease if it is used properly. The important thing to do is to pick the right vaccine for the job.

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4-22-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF APRIL 28, 1952

Scholarships Available for University of Illinois Freshmen

High school seniors should not let lack of funds discourage them from enrolling in the University of Illinois this year. Many scholarships are available to help them finance their freshman year, and even beyond in some cases.

Boys and girls who are enrolling in the College of Agriculture can apply for the Sears Roebuck and Kroger scholarships. These scholarships are awarded on the basis of high school scholastic records, leadership and financial need.

Each one provides $200 for the freshman year. The Sears Roebuck scholarships offer outstanding students the possibility of extension through their sophomore and junior years.

Students may apply for both scholarships on one application form. Write to C. D. Smith, assistant dean, 104 Mumford Hall, Urbana, for application blanks.

In addition to these, five tuition scholarships, worth up to $380 over a four-year period, are available in each county. They are awarded on the basis of a competitive examination which will be given on Saturday, June 7, by the county superintendent of schools in each county of the state.

The tuition scholarships include one general county scholarship, one in agriculture and one in home economics and two scholarships for children of veterans of World War I or World War II.

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for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 5, 1952

Take Care of Good Eggs to Keep Them Good

An egg can never be any better than when it is first laid. That's when its quality is highest.

But Sam F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says eggs can get a lot worse in a hurry if you don't take care of them.

One bad egg can spoil a breakfast or ruin a cake. But, more important, it can help build consumer resistance to your product and push down its market value.

Ridlen says heat and dryness are the two worst enemies of fresh eggs. Eggs need to be kept cool and moist to keep their fresh qualities.

When you leave eggs in a hot, dry place, the liquid inside the eggs immediately starts to pass out through the pores of the shell and is replaced by air. The air cell in the egg gets larger and the egg slowly dries out.

Combat heat by gathering eggs at least three times a day in a wire basket or ventilated container. Take them right away to a cool cellar or specially cooled room. Keep the egg room moist by sprinkling the floors and walls, hanging wet burlap sacks or using a mechanical humidifier.

Let eggs cool thoroughly before you pack them. Eggs can be cooled in three hours on a wire tray or five hours in a wire basket. But, it takes 11 hours in a solid pail and 19 hours in an egg case.

RAJ:bb
4-28-52

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 5, 1952

How Deep Should Transplants Be Set?

Transplanting time always renews the old question that has puzzled amateur gardeners for years--how deep to "set" plants.

W. A. Huelsen, vegetable crops specialist in the Illinois College of Agriculture, gives us the answer in two easy lessons:

1. Plants having a central crown bud, such as cabbage and celery, should be set so that the central growing point remains exposed above the soil.

2. Plants having no central crown bud, like tomatoes, peppers, and egg plants, are usually set so the topmost roots are about an inch below the soil surface.

Tall, spindly plants, which result from overcrowding in the plant bed, require special treatment. This condition is often found in tomato plants, and gives us a real problem at transplanting. Trenching is the best solution--dig a trench 3 or 4 inches deep, lay the plants in the trench and cover all but the upper 4 or 5 inches.

Spindly cabbage plants are handled best by cutting off the tops of the leaves, taking care not to injure the crown bud.

Huelsen disagrees with the theory that very deep setting to produce two root systems will result in a better growing plant. It is true that the original root system remains on the plant and functions until the second system takes over, he says. But the secondary root system which develops just below the soil surface becomes the active one.

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-28-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 5, 1952

Guards Help Prevent Farm Machine Accidents

Farmers have no excuse for working around power take-offs and other moving farm machinery parts without safety guards in place.

John Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, says the stakes are too high for you to gamble against having an accident by working around farm machines without guards. If you lose, it's too late to be sorry.

See your power implement dealer if you do not have standard power take-off hitches and shields, Matthews advises. You can get hitches and adapter packages for power-driven implements from dealers representing the makers of the equipment. But the best shield made gives no protection if it is not used properly.

Some manufacturers of new farm equipment are putting on nonremovable power take-off shields to help protect operators against their own negligence. You can open nonremovable shields for servicing or inspecting the power shaft.

Most of these shields are being built with a loop around the pipe connection between the universal joints or are otherwise permanently attached so that they cannot be taken completely off. When the drive is in use, the shield stays with it.

Matthews suggests that you also check the shields on fans, chains or gears. Be sure all these shields are in place before you take the machine to the field or work with it around the farmstead.

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4-29-52

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 5, 1952

Recondition Movable Hog Houses for Range Shelters

Here's a good rainy day job for you this spring--get your movable hog houses in good shape for range shelters this summer.

H. L. Wakeland, agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says the wear and tear of moving hog houses makes reconditioning necessary every year or so. Moving is especially hard on the skids, framing and roof.

You should probably replace severely worn skids, Wakeland says, although you can "re-shoe" partially worn skids with 1" x 4"'s or 2" x 4"'s. New skids or shoes that are treated with a preservative will give better service by protecting against rot.

Replace all broken floor boards and nail down loose boards to prevent broken legs or other injuries to your pigs when they use the houses this summer. It will also be a good idea to check to see that the hitches are in good order to save time and trouble when you start to move the houses.

If the sidewalls are loose at the foot of the studding, you can sometimes tighten them with metal angle irons or wood corner angles. Diagonal 2" x 4"'s from the roof line to the floor nailed to each stud will also help. Replace rotting or worn flooring and sills at the entrance. Pound in any protruding nails.

Wakeland says the roof is often neglected on a movable hog house when it needs to be watertight. Renail metal roof sheets if they are loose and redrive roofing nails that are loose. You can fix small holes in a metal roof with metal screws and rubber washers.

Renail or replace loose or torn roll or shingle roofing.

RAJ:bb
4-28-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 5, 1952

Good Sanitation Is the Answer to Swine Dysentery

You can't beat good sanitation and management practices when it comes to keeping swine dysentery out of your pigs and hogs.

Dr. L. E. Boley, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says it's important to keep lots and pens clean and well drained. Most cases of swine dysentery occur on farms that neglect sanitation.

Another caution: Isolate newly purchased hogs for a month before adding them to your herd. Sales barns and yards are believed to be important sources of infection.

The most easily recognized symptom of swine dysentery is a bloody diarrhea which often contains shreds of tissue from the intestines. Losses can run up to 60 percent or more in young pigs. Sometimes hogs and sows also get the disease.

If you suspect swine dysentery, call your veterinarian. His treatment with bacitracin or streptomycin or other drugs will help to put the pigs on the road to recovery.

Dr. Boley cautions swine growers not to expect bacitracin or streptomycin in feed supplements to take care of swine dysentery. To whip the disease, doses of these antibiotics must be 10 to 20 times stronger than those present in most feeds.

Hogs that recover from swine dysentery should be marketed, Dr. Boley says. They may carry the disease.

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4-29-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 5, 1952

Should You Farm on the Contour?

Are you trying to decide whether or not you should plant your crops on the contour?

Ralph C. Hay, soils and water engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says all sloping cropland with more than two percent slope probably would benefit from contour farming.

If you have productive land with valuable topsoil to save, and smooth, uniform slopes--not irregular, choppy slopes--you also would probably benefit from contouring.

Hay points out that farming on the contour rather than up and down the slopes helps to save both water and soil. It also increases crop yields an average of about 10 percent.

One Illinois study of 124 farms showed an increase of 6.9 bushels an acre on the same farms over the 7-year period of 1939-1945 on contoured fields over fields farmed up and down the slopes. That increase amounted to 12 percent.

You'll need to plan and lay out your fields for contouring, Hay says. You may have to remove some interior fences and change field arrangements to eliminate short rows. Plan wide sod waterways for turning across draws and sod turn strips at edges of field instead of rows planted on head lands.

It's very important, too, that you plan for harvesting as well as plowing and planting.

Contour lines are fairly simple for you to lay out. If you are in doubt about how to proceed, see your county farm adviser, county soil conservation district office or PMA office. For additional information, ask for Circular 575, "How to Farm on the Contour: or write directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for a copy.

RAJ:bb
4-28-52

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for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 12, 1952

Bark Peels Best From Illinois Trees Now

The home-grown fence posts you plan to treat with preservatives will peel easiest in the spring.

W. L. Meek, forest products specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says tests show that the best time for removing bark from most Illinois trees is about two weeks after the leaves have started to come out.

The time will vary somewhat depending on the location. In central Illinois, it's around the middle of May. Good peeling conditions for hardwoods, such as oak, will continue for about one month and for softwoods, such as pine, about two months.

Meek says it's best to peel posts immediately after cutting. Hand-peeling is the most practical home method of removing bark. You can make a "peeling buck" to hold the posts in a horizontal position. It also helps to butt the post being peeled against a post in the ground.

Cut the bark with an axe or drawknife; then loosen it with a prying tool--perhaps a piece of old automobile spring rounded on one end.

After you loosen the bark, you can strip it the full length of the post. The inner bark, which must be removed for effective preservative treatment, will come off easiest now, too. But later in the summer and during the winter, it takes much more time and effort to remove it.

There are mechanical bark removers, but most of the machines are too expensive for home use. Unfortunately only the expensive machines do a good job. Some small, cheaper ones have been made and tested, but Meek says they are not considered practical for farm use.

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5-7-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 12, 1952

Illinois Timber Vital to State Coal Mining

It takes wood to mine coal in Illinois--3 1/4 million dollars worth was used in 1948! That's enough lumber to build 4,800 houses. Nearly two thirds (63 percent) of that wood came from timberlands right here in the state.

According to a new bulletin, No. 554, "Hardwood Requirements of the Illinois Coal Mining Industry," the supply of wood for Illinois mining needs will probably continue to meet the demand if conservative harvesting practices are used. The author, C. S. Walters, forestry products specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, offers some suggestions for improving harvesting and woodland-to-mine marketing.

Since Illinois farmers own 90 percent of the state's woodlands, they should control cutting practices and encourage growth of the wood crop. However, the average farmer is not able to meet mine needs for continuous supplies of timber in large lots. As a result, independent jobbers and cutters act as middlemen between mine and farm. Sometimes their cutting practices are wasteful.

Concentration yards, which serve the lumber business much as elevators serve the grain business, also help to take care of that problem. They allow the farmer to market small quantities of wood products, let the products accumulate and then market them in quantity to mine operators.

With group marketing (or concentration yards), the average farmer could control cutting and growth by harvesting and marketing his own crop of timber--at a better profit to him.

Some standardization of wood products would be helpful to the farmer, mine operator and consumer. For instance, the bulletin reports that as many as 40-odd sizes of cross ties were marketed and used.

Farmers with woodlands, mine operators and consumers will all be interested in the findings reported in this new bulletin. For a free copy, write to the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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5-6-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 12, 1952

Low-Pressure Spray Helps Control Sheep Ticks

If you don't have dipping facilities or a high-pressure spraying rig, you can use a low-pressure crop spraying outfit to treat your sheep to control ticks.

U. S. Garrigus, head of the sheep division at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that tests by the USDA have shown that spray units developing a pressure of 60 pounds per square inch will control ticks as effectively as more expensive, high-pressure sprayers.

Garrigus emphasizes that dipping is still the surest and best way to control sheep ticks if you have the facilities available. It is highly important, if you use the spray method, that you get the sheep thoroughly wet with the spray.

Sheep men at the University of Illinois recommend that you treat your sheep for ticks within two to three weeks after they are shorn. The best time to shear is before sheep go on pasture.

USDA entomologists got 4 to 6 months' control of ticks with 0. percent concentrations of DDT, chlordane, toxaphene and methoxychlor, and with 0.025 percent gamma isomer content of benzene hexchloride. Choice of insecticide and thorough application are more important than spray pressures, they believe.

If you do use a low-pressure sprayer, Garrigus suggests that you corner your flock in a pen and soak them with a coarse, rain-like spray. You'll probably have to figure from 2 to 8 quarts of spray material for each animal, depending on their size and the thickness of their fleece. You can get better wetting and better control in long-fleeced sheep by adding a wetting agent or common detergent to the spray mixture.

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RAJ:bb
5-7-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 12, 1952

Hog Farmers Can Save Labor With Plastic Pipe

It's easy to set up temporary, movable water lines to field water tanks with the new plastic pipe now becoming available from some well drillers and hardware stores.

Plastic pipe is light, flexible and easy to handle and is not subject to rust or corrosion, according to Frank Andrew, extension agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Andrew says you can get the new pipe in sizes ranging from a quarter-inch to 2 inches in diameter in rolls 400 feet long. You can lift a 400-foot roll easily, because it is so light in weight. All you need for installation is a pocket knife to cut the material and a screwdriver to secure the fittings.

Plastic water pipe can be fitted to standard pipe fittings with special adapters that you can buy with the pipe. It also has its own special plastic fittings.

For temporary service, all you have to do is uncoil a roll or two of the plastic pipe on top of the ground. Because sunlight is somewhat harmful, it is best to cover plastic pipe that you plan to install for several months or longer. It's easy to put the pipe into a plowed shallow furrow and then shovel the dirt back over the pipe.

Plastic pipe is not designed for hot water, although you can use it to carry warm water up to 120 degrees without harming it.

Andrew says plastic pipe appears to be especially useful for jet-type pumps. One man can lower the jet pump into a well by uncoiling two rolls of plastic pipe at the same time. The smooth inside surface of the pipe insures good operation of a jet pump.

RAJ:bb
5-6-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 12, 1952

Rhinitis Attacks Midwest Pigs

Illinois farmers are asked to be on the alert for infectious rhinitis of swine. The disease is spreading rapidly throughout the Midwest, striking mainly young pigs.

Dr. G. T. Woods, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says to call your veterinarian if your pigs rub their snouts on the ground, sneeze frequently or have a bloody discharge from the nose. He will examine them for rhinitis.

Rhinitis often destroys the turbinate bones of the nose, causing a dished face or curved snout. Affected pigs are often stunted and unprofitable. Death losses may follow if pneumonia strikes the weakened pigs.

Breeding animals that have had rhinitis often carry the disease into healthy herds. The cause of this contagious disease is unknown.

If rhinitis is diagnosed early, before all the litters are exposed, destroy the sick pigs and market the affected sows, gilts and boars. Disinfect all equipment, and move it and your healthy pigs to clean ground. If most of the pigs have rhinitis, dispose of the entire herd, and clean and disinfect the equipment.

Special caution is needed in the future when you restock your farm, Dr. Woods says. Be sure to buy your breeding stock from a herd that has never had rhinitis.

To prevent the spread of the disease, don't sell a single animal for breeding purposes if your herd is infected. Instead, market the herd for slaughter and start out again with healthy stock and clean equipment.

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5-7-52

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 12, 1952

New Simplified Calf Starter Costs Only $3.75

A new, low-cost simplified calf starter that can be easily mixed on the farm has produced growth gains well above average for about half the cost of raising calves with large amounts of whole milk.

K. E. Gardner, University of Illinois dairyman, says the starter costs only $3.75 per hundredweight, including grinding. "It's the lowest cost calf starter I know of," he says. You can get full details by writing the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for a free pamphlet on simplified calf starters.

Here is the formula: 50 pounds of shelled yellow corn, 20 pounds of oats, 27 1/2 pounds of soybean oil meal (either expeller or solvent), 1 1/2 pounds of steamed bonemeal and 1 pound of salt. It provides 18 percent total protein and should be coarsely ground.

At the College of Agriculture, this starter was tested on 53 dairy heifers of all five breeds. Their growth gains averaged from 108 to 134 percent of normal. These gains compared closely with those of 23 control calves getting a more expensive, complicated starter.

Calves first received the simplified starter at two weeks of age and were carried on it to four months of age. They ate it free-choice, up to 4 1/2 pounds daily, with all the good-quality legume or legume-grass hay they wanted, plus water and salt. Good results in raising calves depend heavily on feeding good-quality hay.

The calves averaged only 380 pounds of whole milk fed during an 8- or 10-week period. This is less than half the whole milk often fed, for a saving of about $20 per calf in cost of whole milk fed.

Holstein, Ayrshire and Brown Swiss test calves each averaged 367 or 369 pounds of whole milk during eight weeks, while Jerseys and Guernseys averaged 379 and 414 pounds respectively during 10 weeks.

Vitamin A and D supplements were fed in the test. But you get just as good results by feeding good rations without these supplements, according to recent Illinois tests. If you're forced to feed poor-quality hay, you might feed a dry powder vitamin A and D mixture or cod liver oil to be sure of providing enough of these vitamins.

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5-7-52

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 12, 1952

Select Two Illinois International Youth Delegates

Norma Jean Hanell, 21, Bloomington, and Margaret Dail, 21, Erie, will be Illinois' delegates to the International Farm Youth Exchange program this summer.

Norma Jean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Evar Hanell, will go to Sweden. Margaret, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dubert Dail, is scheduled to live and work on farms in Israel.

The two girls will be among an expected 150-200 young farm people from the United States wil will visit foreign countries under the exchange plan this year. It is expected that they will leave this country about mid-June and return in early November. Of the $600 needed from the state to finance each girl's trip, $300 has been donated by McLean and Whiteside counties, and $300 from the state 4-H office from funds donated by other counties.

In return, rural young people from foreign countries will come to the United States to live and work on farms in this country this summer. Thirty-six different countries have been invited to cooperate in this summer's exchange program.

Norma Jean will be graduated from the University of Illinois in June. She is a graduate of Bloomington high school and has had nine years of agricultural 4-H club work and five years of home economics 4-H club work. She was a state project honor and state outstanding club member. She was a delegate to State 4-H Leadership Conference in 1950 and has served as treasurer of the McLean County 4-H Federation. She has been outstanding in her college work.

Margaret has completed two years of work at Augustana College in Rock Island and plans to teach rural elementary grades. She is a graduate of Erie high school, has been a member of Rural Youth for four years and has had three years of 4-H club work. She has been an assistant counselor in Methodist Youth Fellowship, FHA president one year, director of junior choir one year and treasurer of GAA.

RAJ:bb
5-7-52

for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 19, 1952

Keeping Eggs Fresh From Hen to Market

Most eggs are fresh and good when they're laid. It's up to you to keep them that way until you market them.

S. F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, offers some common-sense practices that will help to keep eggs at top quality from hen to market:

Gather the eggs at least three times a day in a wire basket or ventilated container.

Take them to a cool, moist, well-ventilated place--the cellar or a special basement room on most farms. Keep the temperature below 60° if possible. Keep the room moist by sprinkling the floor and wall, hanging up wet burlap sacks or using a mechanical humidifier.

Eggs take up odors quickly, so keep them away from such things as kerosene, onions, potatoes and fruit.

Dry-clean soiled eggs with fine sandpaper, emery cloth or steel wool. Remove stains with a damp cloth and baking soda.

Do not pack eggs until they are thoroughly cooled and only in precooled cases, fillers and flats. A simple rule of thumb is: "Pack tomorrow the eggs you gather today." And pack them with the small end down.

Market eggs at least twice a week, handle them carefully and protect them en route to market from heat, cold, rain and jarring.

Use thin-shelled, cracked and badly stained eggs at home--don't market them--and you'll get better prices for a top-quality product.

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MCD:bb
5-13-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 19, 1952

What Are Illinois Farms Worth Today?

If you're thinking of buying a farm, you'll likely need more money per acre to swing the deal in Illinois than in any other large agricultural state--and you'll probably pay more than twice as much as you would have paid in 1940.

Farm property values as reported in the 1950 Census of Agriculture showed Illinois fifth from the top with an average of $174 an acre. New Jersey was highest at $293, followed by Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts with averages of $248, $232, and $190 an acre, respectively. These four comparatively small states, however, have a combined acreage of less than half the state of Illinois and are near dense urban developments.

All grades of land were combined in the census averages.

C. L. Stewart, agricultural economist in the Illinois College of Agriculture, says we should not confuse these census figures with present land values--since per acre values have continued to rise since 1950.

In Illinois, values have increased 25 to 30 percent in the last two years, the present average being more than $220 an acre. This is only an average, Stewart emphasizes, with sale prices on select farm lands often exceeding $500 an acre.

In general, values went up the least in the northeastern states between 1940 and 1950, and most in the mountain and Pacific coast states. Per acre values rose only 76 percent in the New England

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region compared with 149 percent in the mountain states. The increase was 103 percent in the east north-central area.

According to the census, Texas was the top-ranking state in total farm real estate value, with $6.7 billion. California moved up from fourth to second place from 1940 to 1950; while Iowa, which ranked first in 1940, was in third place in 1950. Illinois was fourth, followed by Kansas, Ohio and Indiana. These total farm real estate values, Stewart points out, depend largely upon areas of the respective states.

OFG:bb -30-

Keep Bonfires Away From Farm Buildings

When you burn paper fertilizer sacks or last winter's accumulation of rubbish, be sure and keep the fire away from your farm buildings.

Dean W. Winter, fire prevention specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, suggests that you keep your bonfires well out in the open so that flying embers and burning paper will not be blown onto your buildings.

It's a good idea, Winter says, to keep gunny sacks and water near bonfires so that you can soak the sacks and beat out any grass fires that may start.

Every bonfire needs to be watched all the time it is burning. And it needs to be entirely put out before you leave it to be sure it doesn't flame again after you have gone.

RAJ:bb -30-
5-13-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 19, 1952

Vapor Barrier Helps Stop Condensation Trouble

Insulation without an adequate vapor barrier can increase moisture troubles in farmhouse walls.

Keith Hinchcliff, extension farm housing specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that sometimes condensation trouble will show up in the form of peeling paint on the outside of your house.

Sometimes, however, it's not that obvious. In some cases moisture will condense only in the stud spaces and increase conditions for decay inside the walls.

Hinchcliff quotes from a publication of the Forest Products Laboratory: "The amount of condensation that can develop within a wall depends upon the resistance of intervening materials to vapor transfusion, differences in vapor pressure, and time. Ordinary plaster and lath have comparatively low resistance."

Problems of condensation are solved in new construction with between-the-walls insulation these days by installing a vapor barrier of paper or metal under the lath, Hinchcliff says. Stopping condensation in old houses where insulation is blown in is complicated by the difficulty of installing an adequate vapor barrier.

Aluminum or rubber base or oil paint on the inside walls will help. Two coats of this paint are best, but one coat of aluminum paint plus one coat of oil-base wall paint will help. Gloss and semigloss wall paints provide more protection than flat wall paints. Water-base paints are no protection at all against passage of water vapor.

So-called water-proofed insulation does not necessarily stop the flow of vapor.

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-13-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 19, 1952

Bloat in Cattle Is Unpredictable

Bloat in cattle is unpredictable, but there's a good chance that your cows will have trouble some time this spring if you have legume pasture.

Dr. L. R. Bain, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says some cows will bloat on almost anything they eat, although the greatest danger comes in the spring when they are first turned onto lush, green legumes. There is no known feed or mineral mixture that will positively prevent bloat.

Many dairymen and veterinarians recommend keeping cattle out of the pasture while it's wet with dew or rain, Dr. Bain says. Giving cattle a full feeding of leafy, well-cured hay each morning before turning them out onto pasture may also help.

Other persons break their cattle in gradually. They let the cows graze one-half hour in the morning and afternoon the first day and increase the time each day so that by the sixth day the cattle can stay all day.

It's a good idea to watch your cows as much as possible so you can get help from your veterinarian at the first sign of bloat. While waiting for him to arrive, tie a stick crosswise in the cow's mouth to relieve the bloat, and give the cow a little exercise. Prompt attention helps to save thousands of cattle a year.

Dr. Bain believes there's less trouble in beef cattle that are on pasture 24 hours a day. Dairy cattle sometimes get too hungry during milking in the barn and overeat when they return to pasture.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 19, 1952

Three 4-H Lamb Shows in June

Illinois 4-H'ers are looking forward to three big lamb shows and sales this June--at Evansville, Indiana; East St. Louis, and Chicago.

The 17th annual Tri-State 4-H Club Fat Lamb Show and Sale will be held at the Evansville Union Stock Yards on June 14. The exhibitor of the grand champion lamb at this show wins a trip, sponsored by the Tri-State Purebred Sheep Breeders Association, to the 1952 International Live Stock Show at Chicago.

Make entries in advance with A. M. Bishea, county agent's office, Evansville, Indiana, and postmark them not later than June 7.

4-H Lamb Marketing Day is scheduled for June 19 at the National Stock Yards, East St. Louis. 4-H members with sheep production projects may enter project lambs. Owners do not have to accompany the animals to market, but they must identify ownership of all lambs sent in by truck. Lambs will be accepted after noon on June 18 and up to 8 a.m. on June 19.

The third show will be Chicago's 13th annual Junior Market Lamb Show, to be held at the Union Stock Yards on June 26. This show (also open to FFA members) will have a single lamb class as well as classes for pens of three, five and 10 lambs.

The single lamb competition offers 11 awards. Cash prizes down to 25th place are offered in the pens of three class, to 15th place in pens of five and to 8th in pens of 10. Shropshire, Hampshire, Suffolk, Corriedale and Lincoln breed associations offer additional prizes on lambs representing their breeds.

Make all entries for this show by June 23.

For more information on any of the three shows, write to the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, Mumford Hall, Urbana.

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for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 26, 1952

Get Best Results From Antibiotics in Poultry Rations

You'll get more growth for your money from antibiotics in poultry rations if you feed them during the first three weeks of a chick's life.

S. F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that after three weeks the amount of growth from antibiotics falls rapidly. On superior rations growth advantage may disappear completely when a chick weighs two pounds at seven weeks. With poor rations, the decline is more gradual.

You won't need to use antibiotics in the ration of adult birds--at least until more is learned about how they respond.

Here are some other facts about antibiotics in poultry rations you'll want to remember:

First, antibiotics are never a substitute for good management and sanitation. They will not take the place of dietary protein in any ration.

Not all rations to which antibiotics have been added give a growth response.

The amount of growth from a poor ration plus antibiotics is never equal to the growth from a good ration plus antibiotics. In fact, in most cases it will not equal the growth of a good ration without antibiotics.

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MCD:pm
5-20-52

Population Decreases in Some Small Towns

During the past decade the population has decreased in two out of five Illinois rural towns of fewer than 2,500 persons.

C. L. Folse, rural sociologist in the Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that while 40 percent of these rural communities were losing ground, the general shift in population from rural to urban continued.

Population in Illinois cities increased nearly 12 percent from 1940 to 1950, while the rural increase was only about 6½ percent, based on the 1940 census classification of "rural" and "urban."

The trend toward smaller population in many of the rural centers presents a real challenge to leaders concerned with community improvement programs, according to Folse. The future of the smaller centers will depend to a large extent upon how well they are able to meet day-to-day needs of farmers and whether or not farm people are encouraged to take an active part in community life and affairs.

There is also a challenge for society in general, Folse says--since these small communities have played an important role in fostering and preserving our democratic institutions.

Here is an example of how rapidly Illinois' population has become urbanized: In 1900 Peoria was the only city in the state in the 50,000 to 100,000 population range. By 1950 there were 10 cities in this size group.

Since 1900 both the number of cities and the proportion of population in cities has increased tremendously. About three-fourths of all Illinois residents were living in urban areas in 1950.

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OFG:pm
5-20-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 26, 1952

Five 4-H Programs Offer College Scholarships

Any Illinois 4-H'er will have a chance to win one of 38 college scholarships worth $300 each for top-rating achievement records in five national 4-H programs this year.

E. I. Pilchard and Miss Anna Searl, state leaders of boys' and girls' 4-H Club work in Illinois, list the five programs, number of scholarships awarded in each and their donors.

International Harvester sponsors both the field crops and frozen foods programs with six scholarships offered in each; Dearborn Motors sponsors the poultry project offering ten scholarships; Firestone offers eight scholarships in the soil and water conservation program; and Standard Oil Co. of Indiana provides eight scholarships in the tractor maintenance program.

State winners in field crops, poultry and tractor maintenance will each receive an all-expense trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November. A 17-jewel wrist watch will go to each state champion in frozen foods and soil and water conservation.

Eight sectional champions in frozen foods and 16 in soil and water conservation will win trips to Chicago Club Congress.

All programs are directed by the Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics. For more information about the programs and awards, see your county farm or home adviser.

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MCD:pm
5-20-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 26, 1952

Two State 4-H Leaders to Study at Maryland

Erma Cottingham and Hubert J. Wetzel, assistant state leaders in home economics and agricultural 4-H Club work respectively, will study in Maryland this summer.

Miss Cottingham and Wetzel were named winners of scholarships for training in human development education at the University of Maryland Institute for Child Study during its summer workshop from June 23 to August 1. The scholarships were made possible by a grant of $10,500 from the Sears Roebuck Foundation to the National 4-H Club Foundation.

The two Illinois extension 4-H specialists will be among a group of 48 extension workers from 31 states, Hawaii and Puerto Rico awarded the scholarships.

The training program and grant were arranged because of a growing interest in human development education on the part of extension personnel who work with young people. This training will be directly applicable to their work with local 4-H Club members and Rural Youth.

Included in the workshop program will be lectures by prominent psychologists and educators explaining different aspects of human motivation and behavior. Laboratory sessions will give the students an opportunity to apply principles learned in the lectures to actual growing-up problems of young people.

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5-20-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 26, 1952

Legume-Grass Farming Increasing in Illinois

Legume-grass farming has enjoyed a steadily increasing popularity in Illinois during the last few years.

Reports from eight farm advisers scattered all over the state show a definite increase in sales of legume-grass seed and in acres planted to improved pastures.

The reports received by the Illinois College of Agriculture vary all the way from seed sales up 5 percent in one county to sales doubled in another in 1951. But they all show a decided upward trend.

The Madison county adviser also mentioned a big increase in soil tests for pasture improvement in 1951--at least 25 percent, and maybe 50 percent, over 1950.

Farmers are not only planting more land to legumes and grasses; they're also making better use of the pastures they plant.

Here are some good examples: In Hamilton county Virgil Douglas raised 70 hogs to market weight on ladino clover and bought only one bag of hog supplement. Arthur Allen has his entire 240 acres in legumes and grasses and fattens 200 to 800 sheep each year. In 1951 Robert Henderson and Donald Johnson pastured 19 head of heifers all summer long on 17 acres of rye and fescue established the year before.

In Bond county one man established a good legume-grass pasture on 20 acres of supposedly useless land that had not been plowed for 80 years. In fact, he had to buy additional livestock last summer to keep the grass down.

Barney Zerkle, grain farmer from Richland county, last summer pastured two dairy cows, two calves, a sow and her litter on a

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two-acre legume-grass seeding the entire season. In addition he took off 135 bales of hay--weighing about 60 pounds each--from that same pasture.

In Pope-Hardin counties improved pastures are increasing at a fast rate. Such figures as 250 pounds of clean fescue seed per acre, 70 bales of hay and 100 pasture days per acre definitely make farmers want to get into the legume-grass business.

The general picture in Will county is that there has undoubtedly been quite a little increase in acreage of crop land seeded to legumes and grasses during the last three years.

In Woodford county planting intentions for 1952 showed smaller corn acreage and more land in legume-grass seedings.

And Stark county reports more interest in grass silage, with some 20 men putting up silage during the past two years. In about five cases the silage was put into upright silos; the rest was in piles or surface silos.

Of course, these are all just straws in the wind, but they apparently show a statewide trend toward more good legume-grass crops.

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Every Tractor Should Have a Fire Extinguisher

A relatively inexpensive fire extinguisher on your tractor may help you save a valuable machine.

Dean W. Winter, farm fire prevention specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says every farmer should keep a portable carbon tetrachloride or carbon dioxide fire extinguisher on each one of his tractors.

Fire on a tractor can start easily from a broken sediment bulb or from gasoline spilling over a hot manifold. You can put out such a fire quickly and easily with the right extinguisher, but you have to have it within reach.

Be sure any such extinguisher is approved by the Underwriters' Laboratories, as shown by a seal on the case.

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RAJ:pm
5-20-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF MAY 26, 1952

Watch Cows on Spring Pasture for Grass Tetany

Spring pasture time may be grass tetany time if you have grass pasture for your cows. The disease causes the most trouble during the first few weeks cows are turned out to graze.

Dr. R. D. Hatch, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says highly fatal grass tetany occurs mainly in the spring when cows are producing heavily. It's most likely to strike after cattle have been turned on lush, fast-growing grass pasture that has been highly fertilized.

Heavy grain feeding in the winter which affects the amounts of calcium, phosphorus and magnesium in the body sometimes is blamed for the disease. You may help to prevent trouble if you take the cattle off pasture at night during the first two weeks and give them a feeding of good hay.

Watch for such symptoms as poor appetite, twitching muscles, unsteady gait or convulsions. Many animals become paralyzed and are unable to get up, although they appear normal in other ways.

If symptoms of grass tetany appear, call your veterinarian. Prompt treatment often brings quick recovery. If treatment is delayed, death may occur in a few hours.

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5-21-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 2, 1952

Get Those Early Lambs to Market Early

It's no use keeping your market lambs after July 1 if they are ready for market. It's a good idea to sell them then.

Harry G. Russell, extension livestockman at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says hot weather, parasite attacks and heavy fleece often cause spring lambs to lose weight during the summer. Holding them may also result in some death losses.

There is a normal seasonal trend for the lamb market to decline after the spring months, the specialist points out. Normally June is the best month to market early spring lambs for top market prices.

You can bring early lambs to market weight and finish by that time if you will use good improved pastures and creep feeding if needed. Head lambs born in January, February and early March for market by July 1.

High-scorers in the Illinois farm flock competition market practically all of their early lambs by August 1 and most of them by July 1.

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-27-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 2, 1952

Southern Illinois Legume-Grass Pasture Grosses $122 per Acre

A 60-acre legume-grass pasture at the Dixon Springs Agricultural Experiment Station near Robbs last year grossed $122 an acre in meat gains.

H. A. Cate, extension specialist at the station, reports that the total meat gain from the 60-acres in 1951 amounted to 26,100 pounds. That's 435 pounds an acre. With beef or lamb at $28 a hundredweight, that represents a gross return of about $122 for each acre of pasture.

Cate says six 10-acre fields were each seeded to this basic legume mixture: Ladino, 1 pound per acre; timothy, 4 pounds; redtop, 3 pounds; alfalfa, 4 pounds; and lespedeza, 5 pounds.

A different grass was seeded in the mixture in each field except one. All fields were treated with limestone, superphosphate and rock phosphate in 1947 before seeding.

Here are the results from the 1951 grazing season:

Field 1 (no grass added) was pastured 206 days and yielded 374 pounds of meat gains per acre. Field 2 (alta fescue added) was pastured 225 days and yielded 410 pounds of meat gains per acre, plus 238 pounds of fescue seed. Field 3 (bromegrass added) with 206 pasture days, yielded 366 pounds of meat gains per acre.

Field 4 (orchard grass added) was pastured 225 days and yielded 414 pounds of meat gains per acre, plus 76 pounds of orchard grass seed. Field 5 (Kentucky bluegrass added), with 206 pasture days, yielded 375 pounds per acre, and field 6 (Reed canary grass added) was lowest with 206 pasture days and 362 pounds of animal gains per acre.

Fescue and orchard grass in combination with the legume mixture not only produced the best meat gains, but also furnished extra seed.

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5-27-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 2, 1952

Haying Season Is High-Accident Season

Hurry and hazards go hand in hand in the busy haying season. A few precautions now will help to prevent accidents then.

Take time to check all equipment carefully before haying starts. You'll save time and expense, and you may avoid trouble.

Safety specialists at the Illinois College of Agriculture urge you to make sure loft floors are in good repair and hay chutes are guarded to prevent falls.

Here are some other simple, common-sense precautions recommended by the Illinois Rural Safety Council. They will go a long way toward keeping haying accidents on your farm to a minimum.

Make starts and stops cautiously while loading, especially on rough ground. And never get off tractors and mowers while they are running.

Repair defective hitches, ropes, pulleys, lifts, hay racks and ladders before you use them. Make sure all safety guards are in place on moving equipment.

Carry your pitchfork over your shoulder, and stick it firmly into the ground when you are not using it. Don't lay it down, and never throw it. At the end of the day, hang it up or store it in a rack in the barn.

Farmers know that damp hay is one of the main causes of barn fires. Be sure hay is well cured before you store it in hay mows. It's also a good idea to check freshly stored hay regularly for several weeks for signs of heating.

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5-27-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 2, 1952

Sheep Breeders Field Day Set For June 15

A full day of mixed fun and learning has been scheduled for the Everett Glasgow farm four miles west of Monticello on Sunday, June 15.

That's the date of the family basket lunch field day sponsored by the Illinois Purebred Sheep Breeders' association. All sheep growers are invited to attend.

Each breed association director has been asked to send representative sheep of his breed to the Glasgow farm for exhibition during the Sheep Field Day, according to U. S. Garrigus, secretary of the state purebred association. Top-notch sheep will be sent from all over the state.

Highlight of the day's program for entertainment will be a sheep dog demonstration by Arthur Allen of McLeansboro, nationally known handler and breeder of sheep dogs.

Informal inspection of the sheep exhibit will start the day's program at 10:30 a.m., Central Standard Time. Everyone will have a chance to learn some of the good points of quality sheep by taking part in the judging contest at 11 a.m. Your score will be rated against the official placings of a committee of judges.

All visitors are asked to bring their own lunches for a picnic during the noon hour.

In the afternoon Dale Rouse, manager of the Illinois Wool Marketing association, will discuss the wool situation. Dick Carlisle and Harry Russell, extension livestockmen at the Illinois College of Agriculture, will give a sheep shearing and wool preparation demonstration.

Arthur Allen will work his dogs with sheep, starting at 1:45 p.m. Following this demonstration, guests will have a chance to watch a half-hour sound-color movie on "Western Sheep." After 3:00 p.m., everyone will be invited to go on a guided tour of the adjacent State 4-H Memorial Camp area and Allerton Park.

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5-27-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 2, 1952

New Farm House Plans Are Ready

Your county farm and home advisers are now able to give you some real help in planning your new farm home.

A new series of farmhouse plans which are something different in extension housing education is announced by the department of agricultural engineering at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

These designs are called Flexi-Plans because of their unique approach to farmhouse planning. They include the usual construction drawings. But they also are aids to help the farm family select the best plan arrangement for their needs.

The 1952 series includes three basic types of plans.

Flexi-Plan 71201 includes floor plans for eight three-level farmhouses. In each plan the daytime living portion (kitchen, dining and living rooms) are located at or near ground level. Bedrooms are raised one-half story above the living rooms and are over the lower level which contains the work room, wash-up space, heating facilities, etc.

You can build any of eight houses from the floor plans and construction drawings included in this series. In addition, many parts of the plans are interchangeable so that you have a choice of about 50 combinations from the single set of plans.

Flexi-Plan 71202 shows various combinations of 1, 1½ and 2 story houses with alternate plans, and a choice in the number of bedrooms.

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Flexi-Plan 71203 offers even more of a variety of possible floor plans than the others, so that you can choose from more than 100 plan combinations. Twelve complete plans are illustrated in this series. The expansible feature of this plan allows you to add rooms to any of the 12 basic floor plans or any combination of them.

These new plans have resulted from cooperative studies in the Agricultural Experiment Stations of the north central states under provisions of the Research and Marketing Act. The house planning and research phase was done at the University of Illinois as its part in the regional cooperative program.

You can get the entire series or any one of the plan sets through your county extension office, or by writing directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana. Price is $5.50 for the bound set of all three. Each plan can be ordered separately. Prices are $1.80 for Plan 71201, $1.65 for Plan 71202, and $2.10 for Plan 71203. You can examine these plans in your county farm or home adviser's office.

Distribution in other states using the Midwest Plan Service will be through their Colleges of Agriculture. Cooperating and member states include: Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

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RAJ:pp
5-27-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 2, 1952

Veterinarian Explains Brucellosis Control Plan for Hogs

You can stamp brucellosis out of your infected swine herd without losing the benefits of your present blood line.

Dr. G. T. Woods, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says the time to start an eradication program is at weaning time. Have your veterinarian test each pig. Then move the negative pigs to clean ground and market the infected herd as soon as possible.

The number of times the young pigs should be tested after weaning depends largely upon how well they are kept away from infected hogs. One or two more tests before breeding time may be enough if you do a good job of keeping infected and healthy pigs separated.

Raising your pigs away from infection is the backbone of this program, Dr. Woods says. And testing all of the weanling pigs is the only way to find the ones that become infected.

Young pigs usually get brucellosis through contact with the infected sow. Many pigs shake off the disease by the time they are weaned only to become infected again when they contact older, infected hogs.

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for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 9, 1952

Cutting Down Pullet's Feed Does Not Pay

Don't restrict feed intake of your replacement pullets to slow down growth and delay sexual maturity. Chances are the result will be fewer and smaller eggs.

And don't turn them loose to scratch for themselves when they're a few weeks old and expect them to be top-notch producers. They won't be!

S. F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, warns that restricting feed severely and stopping a balanced ration when pullets are several weeks old may cut down profits considerably. Here's why:

When feed intake is cut down enough to delay sexual maturity, Ridlen says, body size is definitely reduced and egg size does not increase at a normal rate. Total annual egg production suffers, too.

A poultryman's cash outlays are heavy before he gets back any income, so it's natural to want to restrict feed somewhat in raising replacement pullets. Ridlen says the best way to cut down feed expenses is to make full use of a good range. Your pullets will eat enough of the range crop to reduce their intake of mixed ration by 10 to 15 percent.

But starving pullets into slow growth and delayed maturity is a heavy price to pay for any feed "saved."

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6-3-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 9, 1952

Don't Feed Dirt to Your Tractor

In the days of horsepower on the farm, you'd probably have fired your hired man if you had caught him putting dirt in the feedbox.

Yet Wendell Bowers, extension farm machinery specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says you may be feeding your farm tractor a sizeable amount of dirt every day and not know all the damage it's causing.

Bowers says the oil-bath air cleaner is one of your tractor's most important parts. You will need to keep it clean to prevent dirt from getting directly into the engine.

Dirt is by far the biggest enemy your tractor has. Tests have shown that running a tractor for only 10 hours in dusty conditions without an air cleaner can cause total engine failure.

Every gallon of gasoline that goes through the carburetor needs about 9,000 gallons of clean air. Bowers estimates that, even if an air cleaner is 99 percent efficient, 3/4 of a pound of dirt will enter the engine during a year's operation.

If you neglect the air cleaner, dirt may cause sticky or warped valves, grooved intake valves, rapid cylinder wear, loss of power, carbon deposits and excessive fuel consumption.

Keep dirt out of the engine and reduce engine wear by using the correct weight of oil in the air cleaner and changing it every day under normal operating conditions and twice a day in extremely dusty conditions. Keep the precleaner, stack and screen clean by washing with fuel oil or kerosene when necessary. Be sure the oil level in the cleaner is correct at all times.

For more information see your county farm adviser, or write to the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for a copy of Ag. Eng. 685 "Don't Feed Dirt to Your Tractor."

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6-3-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 9, 1952

Moderate Grazing of Legume-Grass Pastures Pays

You'll condemn your lush legume-grass pastures to slow death if you graze them too heavily and too soon.

H. A. Cate, extension specialist at the Dixon Springs Agricultural Experiment Station, says experimental fields there which once had excellent legume stands are completely bare or replaced by weeds.

But similar pastures that have been grazed moderately for the same length of time still have a good stand of legumes and grasses.

Results show that a good grazing ratio is two cows and their calves to every three acres. This is about the same as ten mature ewes to every three acres or one yearling steer to each acre.

Cate says grazing too early in the spring is just as harmful to a good legume-grass stand as overgrazing. Pastures eaten to the ground early in the spring don't have enough leaf surface left to manufacture food. Root reserves run low, and the plants' slow recovery seriously cuts pasture production for the rest of the season.

It's wise to delay grazing until the forage is four to five inches high. By this time legumes and grasses will grow fast enough to keep ahead of the animals.

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6-3-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 9, 1952

University of Illinois Will Graduate First Veterinarians

Twenty-four veterinarians, the first to be trained at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, will be graduated during commencement exercises at the University on Sunday, June 15.

Four years after they were admitted as the first class of the new College of Veterinary Medicine in 1948, the 24 students will receive the doctor of veterinary medicine degree which qualifies them for many kinds of work in the veterinary field. Most of the new veterinarians will go into general practice in Illinois.

The veterinary college, the newest college at the University, was established by the board of trustees in 1944. All students at the college are residents of Illinois, and all of the graduating seniors are veterans of World War II.

Two years of preveterinary training are required for admission to the four-year veterinary curriculum. The six years of training qualify Illinois veterinary graduates to aid agriculture in combating costly livestock diseases and protecting the public against diseases animals may transmit to man.

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6-3-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 9, 1952

Egg Law Did Not Cause Low Prices

Egg-producing farmers no doubt "have a squawk coming" so far as recent egg prices are concerned. But E. E. Broadbent, Illinois College of Agriculture egg marketing specialist, says that those who still blame the new Illinois egg law for low prices are wrong.

At the same time, he offers a suggestion to producers who really want to do something about a year-in, year-out problem--our up-and-down egg price pattern.

The only way a market can tell the producer what it wants is to change the price. Prices are at least 50 percent higher every fall than they are in the spring months. If you are a wise producer, you'll plan for fall egg production when egg prices are high.

Over two-thirds of the farmers in Illinois have been starting their baby chick replacements so late that most of our eggs are produced when prices are lowest.

To show that the egg law which went into effect last December did not cause the low egg prices which followed in Illinois, Broadbent lists these comparisons:

From November 15 to January 15, when prices normally drop rapidly, the decline was 14 cents a dozen in Illinois. At the same time, the drop was 16.7 cents in Indiana, 24 cents in Wisconsin, 20 cents in Michigan, 14.8 cents in Iowa, and 18 cents in Minnesota. Average decline was 16.5 cents for the U. S. over this two-month period.

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True, the Illinois price drop was sizable, but compared with that in other states and the U. S. average, the Illinois farmer has come out pretty well, Broadbent points out.

He adds, "It's a well known fact that Illinois egg prices have usually always been four or five cents lower than the U. S. average, as well as lower than prices in surrounding states. Support of the egg grading law will help to raise Illinois standards and prices to averages of the U. S. and surrounding states."

Here are the real reasons for the generally low egg prices of recent months: First, prices farmers receive for eggs are always highest in the fall, usually 50 percent higher than in late winter. Then early this year production was about 10 percent larger than a year ago, and storage supplies of frozen and shell eggs were much larger than normal. The increase in production was far more than the market could absorb at higher prices, and therefore the price went down.

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for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 16, 1952

Crushing Machine Makes Top-Quality Hay

A crushing machine does a quick, thorough job of curing hay. And it preserves more protein and carotene in the hay than is preserved by ordinary drying methods.

J. H. Ramser, agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says Illinois farmers can buy a crusher that trails a tractor either with or without a mower. The crusher with mower saves time, of course. Without mower, the cost is $835; with mower, the price runs from $1,085 to $1,600.

Here's what happens in the crushing process: The hay passes between steel rollers that crack the stems lengthwise--they do not crush the stems to force out juice. Then the hay is spread over the stubble to dry. Slitting stems gives the same result as growing many small stems--more contact with air for quicker drying.

Key advantage of a crusher is that moisture in hay is cut down in half the time. Stems dry almost as fast as leaves, so leaves are not overdried and don't shatter so easily. It saves a day of curing, and in some cases a day saved can mean a crop saved.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 16, 1952

Don't Buy Brucellosis Into Dairy Herd

Don't let a pretty figure fool you when you're looking for a replacement heifer or cow for your dairy herd. Make sure she doesn't have brucellosis before you buy.

Dr. H. S. Bryan, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says a single careless act in handling a brucellosis-free herd may undo the years of work it has taken to build a healthy herd. No possible way of preventing infection from entering the herd should be overlooked.

It's especially important to keep brucellosis out now. According to the new Grade A milk law, persons who don't have a brucellosis-free herd by January 1, 1955, will lose their grade A milk markets.

All animals added to your herd should come from noninfected herds. And to make sure they are free from infection, have your veterinarian test them before you buy. The chief way brucellosis enters a herd is through infected replacements.

Another thing--continue to have your dairy herd blood-tested at least once a year and ring-tested every six months. Periodic testing for brucellosis will spot the infected cows early before the disease can spread through your herd.

If you have an infected dairy herd, see your county or local veterinarian about starting an eradication program, Dr. Bryan advises. The sooner you start to control the disease, the better chance you will have to be rid of it by 1955.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 16, 1952

Summer Garden Needs Insect Control, Water

Insect control and occasional watering are two of the summertime "musts" for most gardens.

Here are some practical tips on handling these problems from the Illinois Garden Guide, published by the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

In contrast to the frequent light waterings advised for seedbeds during dry spells, plots with well-started plants should have good soakings--at least ½ inch of water--but only when they really need it.

A good rule is to water the garden only when plants that wilt a little during the day do not completely revive overnight. On a hot, windy day, even when there is enough moisture in the soil, plants like cucumbers, melons and eggplant will wilt somewhat but will revive during the night.

Most insects can be controlled only with insecticides. But horticulture specialists who prepared the garden guide urge extreme caution in the use of such highly toxic compounds as nicotine sulphate and tetraethyl pyrophosphate. They must be handled and stored with care and used only according to directions. Parathion, a deadly poison but a highly effective insecticide, is also dangerous to handle and is not recommended for use by home gardeners.

A general-purpose dust containing one-half to three-fourths of one percent of rotenone and three to five percent of purified DDT makes an ideal all-round insecticide recommended for the home garden.

The 1952 Illinois Garden Guide gives helpful information on nearly every phase of gardening. If you'd like a free copy of the guide, write to the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for Circular 522.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 16, 1952

Open House at College of Agriculture June 26-27

Research work to make Illinois farming easier and better will be on display at the Illinois College of Agriculture in Urbana on June 26 and 27.

Those are the dates this year for the annual Open House at the college. Farmers and their families, veterans working on farms, high school students and anyone else interested in looking behind the scenes in agricultural research are especially invited to visit the college on either of those two dates.

Tours of the campus will start from the Morrow Plots at the corner of Mathews street and Gregory drive, north of Mumford Hall, every 15 minutes between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. DST and will end by 3:30 p.m. You will be able to park your car or bus at the Morrow Plots.

Some of the things you will be able to see during the morning tours of the agronomy farm include fertilizer and rotation experiments, legume-grass pasture mixtures, small grain variety trials and soil conservation research plots.

Afternoon tours will start at the agronomy south farm,where some of the newest agricultural machinery will be on display. You'll see automatic feed grinding and handling equipment and some units for crop drying and processing. You'll also see crop spraying and dusting demonstrations.

At the purebred dairy barns you will see the new bull and calf barns, tests on simplified calfrations and silage preservative experiments. A visit to the swine farm will show the use of antibiotics in swine feeding and a new concrete feeding platform setup.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 16, 1952

Four Illinois 4-H'ers Attend National Camp

Four Illinois 4-H Club members and two state leaders are in Washington, D. C., this week attending sessions of the 22nd National 4-H Club Camp, which runs from June 18 to 25.

Juanita Johnson, 19, Preemption, Mercer county; Charlotte Ross, 20, Rochester, Sangamon county; Jack Ottosen, 20, Stockton, Jo Daviess county; and Gordon Ropp, 20, Normal, McLean county, are the four 4-H Clubbers selected this year to represent the 57,000 Illinois 4-H Club members at National Camp.

Adult leaders are Miss Anna Searl, state leader of home economics 4-H Clubs, and O. F. Gaebe, state agricultural 4-H Club staff member.

Attending National 4-H Club Camp is the highest honor a 4-H member can achieve. These four Illinois rural young people were selected for the honor because they have shown high qualities of leadership, have achieved outstanding results in their 4-H work, and have taken an active part in project and community activities.

Delegates and leaders will follow a busy schedule of meetings, entertainment and historic tours while they are in Washington. Camp objective is to show these outstanding 4-H Club members how the national government functions and give them a background in the nation's history in the spot where many of the events actually happened.

During the week-long program, the young people will hear some top speakers on the nature and operation of democratic government and will meet in discussion groups to summarize what they learn.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 16, 1952

Cow Herds Can Be Profitable

Don't let someone scare you into selling a good commercial cow herd with the argument that cattle will get cheaper because numbers are increasing.

Harry G. Russell, extension livestockman at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that over a period of years good, well-managed cow herds have been a profitable investment.

That is particularly true on farms that are adapted to commercial cow herds and that have an abundance of high-quality permanent pasture and roughage.

Russell emphasizes good individuals. It costs no more to keep a good cow than a plain one. However, he gives a few rules for management that are important:

1. Maintain cows during the winter on low-cost roughage rations.
2. Use a good, growthy bull, and limit the breeding season.
3. Breed for early calving, not later than April.
4. Cull the cows that do not breed regularly or that fail to calve. Keep a production record.
5. Plan your program to hold labor and overhead costs, including shelter, to a minimum.
6. Wean calves in October or November.

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Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 23, 1952

Puerto Rican Girl Visits Illinois Farms

The second half of the Puerto Rican Farm Youth Exchange program became effective this week with the arrival in Illinois of Ana Mercedes Collazo, San German, Puerto Rico.

Doris Baity of Flora spent six weeks in Puerto Rico in February and March as Illinois delegate to our island territory in the first half of the two-way exchange program.

Miss Collazo is one of nine young Puerto Rican farm people who are living and working on farms in the United States for six weeks this summer. She will spend three weeks in Ford county living in the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Warfield, Gibson City.

Then she will spend two weeks visiting in other farm homes in the state, including a visit to the home of Miss Baity near Flora. Her last week in Illinois will be spent in attending State 4-H leadership conference at State 4-H Memorial Camp near Monticello, July 21-26.

Now a member of a county extension office staff at home, Miss Collazo was a 4-H Club member for three years. She lives on a 70-acre farm which produces coffee, sugar cane, vegetable crops and pasture. This is her first visit to the United States.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 23, 1952

Womeldorff Heads Farm Electrification Council

Dawson G. Womeldorff, Chicago, manager of agricultural sales for the Public Service Company of Northern Illinois, will chairman the newly formed Illinois Farm Electrification Council during the coming year.

A. E. Becker, Springfield, manager of the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, will serve as vice chairman of the group, with E. W. Lehmann, Urbana, head of the department of agricultural engineering, University of Illinois, as advisory chairman.

These appointments were made during the recent organization meeting of the council in Urbana. More than 60 representatives of electric power suppliers, farm insurance underwriters, power use advisers, equipment manufacturers and research men attended the kick-off meeting.

Council members at the meeting heard a discussion on merchandising farm electric equipment by George Mather, Chicago, sales manager, Babson Brothers Co. Others on the program included R. R. Hudelson, associate dean of the Illinois College of Agriculture, and I. E. Parett, Chicago, secretary of public relations, Illinois Agricultural Association.

The Farm Electrification Council will be made up of representatives of organizations engaged in various phases of rural electrification. Its purpose is to focus the activities of these related organizations to provide more practical application of electricity on Illinois farms.

Sub-committees will carry on the work of the council. Subcommittee projects include handbook, research, publicity, power supplier programs, agricultural and home economics 4-H and vocational agriculture electric projects, farm safety, exhibits and farm lighting.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 23, 1952

How One Farm Boy Started Up the Agricultural Ladder

Climbing the agricultural ladder from 4-H Club age to eventual farm ownership is not easy for the average farm youth of today. But here's an example of how one central Illinois grain farmer gave his son a start, as reported by Jack Claar, field supervisor for the Farm Bureau Farm Management Service.

Let's call the father Jim and the son Bill. The example is from a true farm situation, but these are not their true names.

Jim, who rents a good 400-acre farm on a crop-share basis, brought his son Bill into the business on a profit-sharing arrangement in 1946. In addition to producing grain, they raise about 20 litters of pigs a year and have recently started a feeder cattle program.

Bill, who is now 26 years old, contributes only his labor and receives 25 percent of the tenant's income. While this arrangement is fair in this case, it may need to be different for an owned farm, for a smaller farm, for a younger boy or for a less efficiently operated farm.

The son draws $200 a month, which is deducted from his 25 percent at the end of the year. Annual settlement is based on Farm Bureau Farm Management Service records.

Jim has built and moved into a house off the farm, leaving the home place to the young folks. He is taking life easier and turning more of the farm management over to Bill as he is able to accept it. Now Bill is about ready for the next rung of the agricultural ladder--joint ownership of equipment and livestock.

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How One Farm Boy Started Up the Agricultural Ladder - 2

What makes this partnership click? Here are five good reasons: (1) the farm is large enough and is efficiently operated; (2) complete and accurate records are kept; (3) satisfactory living conditions are provided; (4) income is divided fairly; (5) plans are adjusted from time to time; and (6) father and son cooperate in making the important decisions.

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Lightning Rods Protect Your Farm Buildings

No building is safer from lightning than one which is protected by well-grounded lightning rods.

D. W. Winter, farm fire protection specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, lists four important parts of your farm building lightning rod system to check for best protection:

(1) Be sure that the connections are tight between the point and the conductor wire.

(2) Be sure that the conductor wire is more than 5 feet away from electric or telephone wires.

(3) Be sure that the conductor wire is protected from damage, especially near the ground where machinery or livestock may tear it loose.

(4) Be sure that the ground wire or rod is at least 12 feet deep so that it will effectively lose the electrical charge.

You can find other valuable information in USDA Farmers' Bulletin 1512, "Protection of Buildings and Farm Property from Lightning." Get a copy by writing the Superintendent of Documents Washington 25, D. C.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 23,1952

Vaccinating Calves Prevents Blackleg

If you've had blackleg in your cattle, better get "insurance" so it won't flare up again.

Dr. L. R. Bain, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says vaccination protects calves against blackleg on contaminated farms. Have your veterinarian vaccinate the calves before they are three months old and again when they are a year old.

"But be sure to have the calves vaccinated before the disease appears," Dr. Bain cautions. "Treating animals that are already affected is not successful."

Young cattle, especially those between the ages of 6 and 18 months, are most susceptible to blackleg. The disease seldom strikes cattle past two years of age.

Blackleg can live for years in the pasture or in contaminated buildings, waiting to strike the next group of unvaccinated cattle brought to the farm. On one Illinois farm, the disease struck the first herd of cattle that had been on the farm in fifteen years.

Because blackleg is deadly and highly infectious, have your veterinarian check immediately if disease strikes. Without a diagnosis you may mistake it for anthrax or malignant edema. If it is blackleg, burn all the dead animals or bury them deeply under lime and earth.

Dr. Bain says vaccination probably isn't necessary if there has never been blackleg on your farm or if there is little chance that the germ will be washed onto your property from your neighbor's farm.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 23, 1952

Most Gardeners Trim Hedges Backwards

There is only one proper way to shape a formal hedge, according to H. R. Kemmerer, landscape gardening specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture. For a full, healthy hedgerow, the base of the hedge should be wider than the top.

Kemmerer adds that most amateur landscape gardeners train their hedges to taper from a wide top to a narrower base or trim the sides of the row straight down. The wide-top, narrow-base hedge is the direct opposite of good hedge shape.

The reason for having the hedge taper outward from top to bottom is to let more of the sun's rays reach the bottom parts of the hedge. With too little sun, as is usually true in wider topped hedges, the lower foliage tends to die out, leaving unsightly bare spots and exposed stems.

If you have an older hedge that has already developed into an improper shape and you want to start corrective action this summer, Kemmerer advises training it to the narrower top by a gradual trimming process while letting the lower branches grow out for the rest of the summer. Then after pruning next spring you can trim to the desired shape as the hedge grows out next season.

New hedges which were pruned heavily when planted should be allowed to grow for the rest of the first year. The second spring another heavy pruning is needed, followed by summer trimmings which leave three or four inches of new growth each time. This is the best time to train a hedge into the desired shape. Mature hedges will usually need three or four trimmings each season.

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Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 30, 1952

Pole-Frame Buildings Cheap and Practical

If you need a new building on your farmstead, why not consider using pole-frame construction?

Dean Winter, farm buildings secialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says pole-frame buildings have several advantages that appeal to many Illinois farmers.

First, you can use unskilled labor to put up a pole building. The frame is more simple than conventional frames, and less fitting and cutting are necessary. That cuts labor costs.

Second, less time is needed for construction. You don't have to dig a foundation, build concrete forms, pour the concrete and give it time to set. You can save on labor costs there, too.

Third, you can easily cover pole-frame buildings with sheet-type roofing and siding materials, such as aluminum or galvanized steel.

Fourth, pole-frame construction is especially suitable for farm buildings used only as protection from weather--for example, beef cattle sheds, machinery storage and loose housing-type dairy barns. Since these types of buildings just enclose space, they don't need wall sections strong enough to withstand inside pressure from grain or ear corn storage.

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Pole-Farm Buildings Cheap and Practical - 2

If you decide to put up a pole-frame building, here are some contruction tips you'll want to know about:

Set the main poles 5 feet below the ground to strengthen the building against wind.

If you buy the poles from a supply house, make sure they are pressure treated with "penta" or creosote. Treated poles will last 30 years, and probably longer.

Lap the nailing girts wherever you can so that nails won't be driven close to the end of the girt and cause splitting.

If you use roof trusses, notch the top of the pole to hold the truss, and connect pole and truss with a 3/4 inch bolt.

If you use rafters instead of trusses, stengthen the rafter-to-plate joint with metal strips or cleats.

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All-Industry Poultry Day Set For July 21

Poultry and egg producers, feedmen, hatcherymen and others interested in better Illinois eggs and poultry will meet at the University of Illinois on July 21.

Occasion for the meeting will be the annual All-Industry Poultry Day sponsored by the poultry division at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

As in the past several years, program events will be held in Gregory Hall on the campus in Urbana. Also included in the day's events will be an opportunity to tour the poultry farm and see the research work in action.

Members of the Illinois Poultry Industry Council and others will take part in a panel discussion during the day's program to talk about egg quality and the effect of the new Illinois egg law. Members of the University research staff will discuss latest research work and results of experiments.

Winding up the program will be the annual chicken barbecue at the poultry farm. Program planners are expecting about 300 to attend.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 30, 1952

Illinois 4-H'ers Prepare Dairy Foods

Not only good to eat, but also pretty to see are the appetizing dishes prepared by Illinois 4-H Club members enrolled in the Dairy Foods Demonstration program.

They will join about 400,000 other 4-H'ers throughout the country this year who are learning how to make new and better dairy dishes and desserts. These dishes include ice creams, tapioca puddings, strawberry cheese pies, orange sherbets and other desserts--all high in food value.

Offical title of this program in Illinois is "Make Good Things With Milk and Eggs."

Importance of dairying and dairy products has been given special emphasis during June, which is National Dairy Month. 4-H members have helped during the month by giving special demonstrations which show each step in the preparation of dairy dishes.

Achievements of 4-H Clubbers in the dairy foods demonstrations are being encouraged through an awards program sponsored by the Carnation company. Ribbons will go to county winners, while 17-jewel wrist watches will be awarded to state individual and state team winners. Eight trips to National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November will be awarded to national winners.

This program is superivised by the Illinois Extension Service in cooperation with the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 30, 1952

Purebred Sheep Sale at Dixon Springs

July 10 is the date of the seventh annual purebred Hampshire and Suffolk sale at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station in Pope County. H. A. Cate, extension specialist at the station, reports that 44 head of yearling rams and ewes will be auctioned to the highest bidder. The first animal will go under the auctioneer's hammer at 1:00 p.m. C.S.T.

Included in this year's offering are 19 Suffolk rams, 7 Suffolk ewes, 11 Hampshire rams and 7 Hampshire ewes. The sires of the sale sheep will be on hand for prospective buyers to examine before sale time. The sheep to be offered for sale are an unusually fine selection of yearlings showing plenty of size and ruggedness.

Nine of the Suffolk rams and 6 of the Suffolk ewes were sired by Kirton True Man 420, an imported ram by Brantham Evertrue. Kirton True Man was bred by S. Paul of Kirton, Suffolk, England, and was purchased by the University of Illinois at the National Ram Sale in 1949. Kirton True Man is an extremely well-boned ram with depth and exceptional width throughout, Cate says.

Producers who want the type of breeding stock that will do well for them should plan to attend the sale on July 10 and look over the offering.

There will be a tour of sheep pastures and a discussion on sheep management on the morning of the sale day.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 30, 1952

Harvest Time Brings Chances of Accidents

Harvest time is accident hazard time on the farm.

John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, says grain harvesting machinery with its high-speed cutting mechanisms, shafting, gears and chains is dangerous.

It's especially dangerous during the "rush" of harvest, when the chances for accident mount rapidly, Matthews points out. Harvesting is a season when too many farmers get in so big a hurry that they fail to take necessary caution.

First step for safe operation of harvesting machinery is to put it into good condition before the harvest begins. This means that seats, controls, steps and other features of the machine should be in good repair. Shields or other safety guards must be in place before a machine is taken to the field.

The Illinois Rural Safety Souncil recommends the following rules for harvest safety:

1. Always be alert--never take a chance.
2. Always stop all machinery before oiling, adjusting or unclogging it.
3. Avoid wearing floppy or ragged clothing.
4. Always operate tractors at a safe speed.
5. Start smoothly, and slow down for turns and rough ground.
6. Don't run machines too close to the edge of ditches or embankments.
7. Keep small children away from harvesting machinery.
8. Do not jump off equipment before it has come to a full stop.
9. Remember to look both ways as you approach a highway, and cross with care.
10. On a highway obey the signs and rules of the road, and don't forget to use headlights and taillights at night.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 30, 1952

Brucellosis May Spread From Swine to Cattle

Unless you're sure your swine and cattle are free from brucellosis, don't let them run together in the same barnyard.

Dr. G. T. Woods, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says brucellosis can spread to cattle from infected swine. Failure to eliminate the disease from your swine may explain its presence in your cattle. Sometimes the cattle type of brucellosis also infects swine and sheep.

The only way to be sure that your swine and cattle are free from brucellosis is to have them blood-tested periodically, Dr. Woods says.

Some of the costs of brucellosis in swine or cattle include breeding failures, abortions, stillbirths and weak calves and pigs. In cattle the disease also decreases milk production. When it spreads to humans, brucellosis causes undulant fever.

If your swine or cattle have brucellosis, adopt an accredited herd plan without delay, Dr. Woods suggests. Your veterinarian will be glad to help you start an accredited herd program.

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Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 7, 1952

Leptospirosis Causes Illinois Cattle Losses

Illinois cattle owners should be on the alert for signs of leptospirosis. It's a dangerous new cattle disease which is appearing with increased frequency in Illinois and in other states.

Dr. G. T. Woods, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says leptospirosis in cattle was first reported in the United states in 1944 and in Illinois in 1949. The disease now has appeared in Edgar, Iroquois, Jackson, Knox, McLean, Piatt and Vermilion counties.

Symptoms of the disease vary widely, Dr. Woods says. But watch for sudden illness, loss of appetite, fever and blood-tinged urine or milk. Young and adult animals may die soon after the disease strikes. Animals with light attacks may be sick for several days and may either recover or die.

If you suspect an outbreak of leptospirosis, call your vet-rinarian right away. The sooner medical treatment is started, the etter will be the chance of saving the sick animals. The use of antiiotics is thought to help prevent animals from becoming carriers of the isease after they recover.

To prevent the disease in your herd, isolate newly purchased attle, Dr. Woods advises. A blood test will help to determine whether hey have ever been exposed to the disease.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 7, 1952

New Asphalt Spray Starts Seedings Fine in Grass Waterways

A new asphalt spray looks like an excellent answer to the old farm problem of holding soil, seed and fertilizer in place until a grass waterway is well established.

H. M. Smith, University of Illinois soils man, is enthusiastic about the spray after three years of testing. He's found it entirely satisfactory for establishing a seeding surely and quickly and for making repair jobs later.

You spray the special asphalt on the soil immediately after seeding. Recommended rate is 2/10 to 3/10 gallon per square yard, and slightly more on steep slopes. The asphalt makes a dry covering less than 1/16 inch thick which does not stick to your feet. Legume-grass mixtures grow right through this covering.

The asphalt stops the soil from washing and thus protects tiny seedlings as their roots take hold. Within a year the asphalt breaks down and no bad effects on the soil have been found.

Besides its use in grass waterways, the asphalt spray can also be used to establish seedings on sloping home lawns and shoulders along highways. In any case you just prepare a fine, firm, compact seedbed in the usual way.

In the tests, seedings under asphalt sprays always came up one to two weeks earlier than those on untreated check plots, Smith found. This is an important point in fall seedings. Black asphalt seems to absorb more heat and seals in moisture somewhat. This makes

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 7, 1952

New Asphalt Spray -- add 2

for earlier germination. Yet enough small cracks develop in asphalt to let in moisture. In dry weather it's best to sprinkle the area with water before seeding.

Two special asphalts have given equally good results. They are an asphalt emulsion, "Terolas," from Shell Oil Company and a cut-back material called "asphalt mulch" from Lion Oil Company. Ordinary asphalts for road construction should not be used.

At recommended rates of application and at April prices, asphalt spray would cost 5 to 8 cents per square yard, Smith figures. He says in many cases this is actually cheaper than cost of a straw mulch. Besides that, asphalt won't blow away, smother a seeding or be too light to prevent erosion, and there's no danger of fire or weeds either.

"We've tried bluegrass, alta fescue, ryegrass, redtop, red clover, Korean lespedeza and Ladino clover, as well as small grains," says Smith. "All have come through the asphalt in excellent shape. We've even tried broadcast corn, with just as fine results."

A 3-gallon orchard-type sprayer or ordinary spray rig, both with enlarged nozzle openings, can be used to apply the "Terolas" emulsion. The cut-back "asphalt mulch" must be heated to 170 degrees, so highway departments and custom spray operators should have equipment for applying this type. Both asphalts should be sprayed, not sprinkled, on the soil.

Smith warns that asphalt is not a plant food, it is not a soil conditioner and it will not hold big clods together. The seedbed should be well fertilized to give the seeding a fast start.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 7, 1952

Accurate Farm Records Mean Fewer Headaches, More Profits

It may cost you a quarter every time you forget to mark down a one-dollar expense item in your farm record book.

That's the example used by George Whitman, farm accounting specialist in the Illinois College of Agriculture, to emphasize the importance of good farm records. He says that for each dollar of legitimate expense a farmer fails to enter on his income tax report he pays an extra 25 to 30 cents in taxes.

This is not true, of course, in those cases where income may be lower than exemptions and personal deductions.

Besides these costly slip-ups in small expense items, a poorly kept record book or none at all can bring on many headaches around Janary 15 each year, when practically all farmers must file yearly income ax reports.

Two other ways Whitman finds farmers "missing the boat" too ften are in setting up complete depreciation schedules of capital-item nvestments and properly recording breeding stock sales that may qualify nder long-term capital gains.

Whitman says there are many farm account books on the market--ome good, others not so good. One of the most popular among farmers f the state is the University of Illinois simplified Farm Record Book. t's available at your farm adviser's office. And one of the most imortant things to do after starting the book is to discipline yourself o make regular and accurate entries in it.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 7, 1952

Limited Fed Pigs Produce Cheap Gains

More Illinois swine growers are becoming interested in raising a third farrowing of summer pigs.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that farmers like this plan because summer pigs are the right size to clean up cornfields and follow cattle in the fall and early winter.

They also feel that the cheap gains they can put on during the summer by limiting concentrates and using good legume pasture help to offset the lower prices they usually get when these hogs go to market.

Carlisle lists four general practices that the most successful growers follow with a limited feeding program on pasture:

1. Full-feed a balanced ration until the pigs reach a weight of 60-75 pounds. Smaller pigs do not have the capacity to gain well on roughage rations.

2. Feed about a half feed of grain but no protein supplement after the pigs reach 75 pounds.

3. Feed minerals free choice.

4. Provide plenty of legume pasture. Pigs getting limited grain will need 50 percent more pasture than pigs getting a full feed of grain. Ladino clover has given excellent results when used in this type of program.

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RAJ:mi
7/2/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 7, 1952

4-H Camp Fund Nears Halfway Mark

Contributions in the million-dollar Illinois 4-H Camp fund-raising drive totaled $491,251.56 on May 31.

That's what Dean H. P. Rusk of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture told members of the State 4-H Camp Advisory committee at a meeting June 30.

More than 50 members of the advisory committee, the state 4-H camping committee and other invited friends of 4-H attended the meeting at the State 4-H Memorial Camp near Monticello.

This is the fifth year of the 10-year drive to raise a million dollars to develop facilities for 4-H camps in Illinois, Dean Rusk pointed out. So far contributions have followed a planned schedule, and the fund goal is about half reached.

Members of the 33-member advisory committee were first selected by Dean Rusk in 1947 to advise and help the camp fund-raising program. Illinois 4-H Club member are raising half of the million dollars themselves over the 10-year period 1948-1957. A quarter-million dollars is being asked for from friends of 4-H in the counties and another quarter million from business and industrial concerns on a statewide basis.

This is the third time the advisory committee has met to see what has been done in developing facilities and to hear a progress report on the over-all 4-H camping program. There are now five other district camps in operation in addition to the state camp.

Highlight of the meeting was luncheon in the dining hall at State 4-H Memorial Camp as guests of the regular 4-H district camp in session. About 155 4-H'ers from Douglas and Macon counties then in camp served as hosts.

RAJ:mi
7/3/52

for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 14, 1952

No Good Yearling Beef Without Grain

You can t get yearling steers to slaughter finish on roughage alone.

That s the belief of H. G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture. He points out that much of the discussion on making fat cattle on roughage is to play down grain feeding because it is expensive.

Comparisons with yearling steers marketed off grass with no grain and steers from the same crop handled on a delayed-feeding program have been made at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station of the University of Illinois, Russell says.

Steer calves from the 1946, 1947 and 1948 crops were wintered on pasture with no additional grain except some hay and silage when snow was on the ground. These steers went to pasture in April and were marketed in October weighing an average of 801 pounds.

Other steers from the same crops were wintered well, pastured without grain from April to mid August and then fed on pasture for 97 days. They were sold in November weighing an average of 928 pounds.

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For the three year period the steers receiving no grain returned a net farm value of $83.02 a head, while the grain fed steers returned $69.96 a head. If you have plenty of pasture and little grain you might conclude that you should handle only grass cattle.

However, the yearling steers on grass alone sold only as feeder cattle and someone still had to feed them to make them marketable beef. As feeder cattle they are most valuable to the man who pastures them. He can feed them out to slaughter finish with little or no margin above feed cost, if necessary, and take a profit on the increase in value of the weight which was produced on the roughage.

Or, he can winter them as long yearlings and pasture them as two-year olds which may reach slaughter finish on pasture the second summer.

Russell says you should expect to make choice slaughter cattle out of the average yearling steers on about 30 bushels of corn a head.

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7/9/52

Ladino Clover Produces Big Sheep Gains

One acre of Ladino clover this summer has produced over 250 pounds of sheep gain in 18 days at the University of Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station in Urbana.

On June 19, 34 yearling wethers which had been on good bluegrass pasture were turned on one acre of pure Ladino clover. When they were weighed on July 7 before shipping to market they had gained a total of 267 pounds. This gain was at the rate of .44 of a pound a head each day.

There was no trouble with bloat.

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RAJ:mi
7/9/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 14, 1952

Leukosis Causes Severe Poultry Losses

Range paralysis and big liver disease, two forms of leukosis, are taking a big toll in the poultry industry, points out Dr. L. E. Hanson, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

Cancer-like cells that destroy the large nerves of the legs and wings cause range paralysis, Dr. Hanson says. Big liver disease results when tumorous growths greatly enlarge the liver and other organs.

These diseases may stike from 3 to 4 percent to nearly all of the birds in a flock. Range paralysis strikes chiefly pullets on range, while big liver disease attacks laying flocks.

Other forms of leukosis cause blindness, deform bones, or invade the blood. Sometimes several forms of the disease can be found in the same poultry flock.

Many veterinarians believe that some forms of leukosis, including range paralysis and big liver disease, are caused by virus-like agents. So far there is no effective cure for leukosis.

Dr. Hanson says young birds should be kept separate from old stock, as chickens appear to be most susceptible during their first 30 days of life. Gradually chickens increase their resistance to the disease. Symptoms of leukosis may appear six weeks to a year after the birds are infected.

Good sanitation also helps to prevent range paralysis and other forms of leukosis. This includes thoroughly cleaning brooder and laying houses and equipment, and rotating ranges regularly.

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LEA:mi
7/9/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 14, 1952

4-H'ers Have Safety, Health, Recreation Programs

Three national 4-H programs in which club boys and girls help to make rural America safer, healthier and happier are being continued this year in Illinois, the State 4-H Club office announces.

They are the Farm and Home Safety, Health Improvement and Recreation-Rural Arts programs.

1951 records show that more than 580,000 members all over the country took part in the Farm and Home Safety program checking and correcting accident and fire hazards on home grounds and farmsteads. Nearly 750,000 4-H'ers improved their own health and cooperated in improving health conditions in their homes and communities, and half-million 4-H boys and girls assisted in developing recreational activities, as well as took part in music and art appreciation.

Incentives for outstanding county records of achievement in these programs are merit medals for winners in Safety, provided by General Motors, and certificates of honor for those in both Health and Recreation-Rural Arts, in which Kellogg company, and U. S. Rubber, respectively, are awards donors.

The respective donors also provide trips to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next November for state winners in Safety and Health. In the latter, cash awards of $20 to each are presented to 10 clubs carrying the best health programs in the state. In recreational-Rural Arts, a $25 cash award for the purchase of equipment will be given to each county naming a blue award group of 4-H Clubs.

National awards are college scholarships of $300 each for eight top ranking winners in Safety; $100 U. S. Savings Bond and blue ribbon in Health, and Chicago Club Congress trip for each of 12 champions in Recreation and Rural Arts.

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7/9/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 14, 1952

National Farm Safety Week July 20-26

National Farm Safety Week, July 20-26, has a new significance this year, according to officials of the Illinois Rural Safety Council.

The combination of fewer farm workers because of the demands of the military services for manpower and the increasing need for more food and fiber make it doubly necessary this year that you do all you can to avoid costly and time-wasting accidents on your farm.

In his proclamation of National Farm Safety Week, President Truman stated that accidents caused by indifference and thoughtlessness continue to rob the nation each year of the lives and services of thousands of farm residents. The conservation of manpower and property is vital to national defense, he said, and the number of unnecessary casualties can be greatly reduced by the exercise of caution and intelligent effort on the part of each farm family.

Secretary of Agriculture Charles Brannan also appealed to farm families to cooperate in Nation Farm Safety Week activities with state, county and farm organizations to encourage a growing farm safety consciousness.

Brannan points out that the responsibilities laid on the shoulders of the American farmer to produce more food, fiber and other farm products require that every available farm worker be kept on the job. It is more important than ever, he says, to develop attitudes toward farm safety that will help to reduce the toll of accidents.

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RAJ:mi
7/9/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 14, 1952

Tell How to Sell Broilers on Poultry Day

There is a best time for selling your broilers, and it depends on your local feed, market and labor price situation.

That's what H. M. Scott, head of poultry research work at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, will tell visitors to Illinois All-Industry Poultry Day on July 21. Many broiler producers sell their birds too soon, while others hold them too long to realize maximum profits, he says.

Poultry producers, hatcherymen, feed producers and others interested in the poultry industry attending the meeting will also hear some of the Illinois Experiment Station experience with the use of detergents in chick rations as reported by J. M. Snyder of the station staff.

A. G. Mueller, agricultural economist at the Universtiy of Illinois, will discuss the 1951 income from Illinois flocks. A quality egg marketing panel discussion will be headed by Marvin J. Nicol of the Illinois Chain Store Council.

Panel members will include Burton Secord, William Ramsay and John T. Walker, industry representatives discussing buying and selling problems; Frank Hartline, Illinois Department of Agriculture, telling how the egg law is functioning; Harry Roth, Forrest, discussing the producer's slant; and E. E. Broadbent, Illinois College of Agriculture, talking about the poultry and egg marketing situation in Illinois.

You'll be able to see the latest research in progress at the poultry farm during open house from 9 to 10:30 a.m. The annual meeting of the Illinois Poultry Industry Council will be followed by a broiler barbeque at the poultry farm.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 14, 1952

Farm Residents Lose Lives in Accidents

Too many farmers and members of their families lost their lives in unecessary accidents last year.

That's the report from J. W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council. He says that 14,500 farm people in the U. S. were accidentally killed during 1951 while 1,250,000 others suffered lost-time injuries.

Motor vehicle accidents accounted for 5,900 fatalities and 210,000 injuries to farm people last year while farm work accidents claimed 4,000 lives and 330,000 injures. There were 3,900 fatalities and 580,000 injuries in the farm home. A number of miscellaneous causes accounted for the remaining tragedies.

More workers were accidentally killed in farm work than in any other major industry, Matthews point out. Agriculture, of course, has the largest number of workers, but the accident death rate was 57 per 100,000 workers. This is about 3 times as high as the rate for workers in manufacturing plants where safety precautions are more rigidly observed.

The farm accident rate will drop rapidly only as more and more farm families adopt safe practices. The present losses are unnecessary and they can easily be reduced. A determination to practice safety is the principal requirement.

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RAJ:mi
7/9/52

for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 21, 1952

Oats Are a Good Feed for Hogs

When corn gets scarce and oats are plentiful, you can use oats in hog rations to replace all or part of the corn.

You will slow down the rate of gain of growing-fattening pigs as you increase amounts of ground oats in the ration, says G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture. And increasing the amount of oats will also lower their per-pound value.

Grind oats fine for best results when you are feeding growing-fattening pigs, Carlisle advises. Tests have shown that on the average whole oats are worth only 75 percent as much as ground oats for young pigs.

You can maintain rate of gain by using a ration that consists of two-thirds corn and one-third oats plus supplement. In this ration, 100 pounds of oats has the same feed value as 80 pounds of corn. Rate of gain will fall about one-fourth if you change the ration to one-fourth corn and three-fourths oats plus supplement.

Oats are also an excellent feed for brood sows. Oats plus minerals fed free choice on alfalfa or Ladino clover pasture are a good ration for bred sows during the summer months.

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RAJ:mi
7/14/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 21, 1952

Saving Steps Saves Time in Poultry Business

Group all nests near the door in your henhouse and let the hens do the walking.

That's the suggestion of Sam Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture. You'll find few, if any, more floor eggs, and you'll save yourself many steps.

Steps take time and cost you money in the poultry business, Ridlen says. Good poultrymen try to eliminate useless steps. Cut steps to save time, but make every step count.

Piping water into the henhouse and using automatic fountains will cut watering time in half. Time saved in large flocks may be even greater.

Another labor-saving step is to keep hens in large units. Compare the work of the poultryman with 300 hens in one pen with that of one who has three pens with 100 hens in each. First step may be to take out all unnecessary partitions, Ridlen adds. Put feeders in one or more lines parallel to the front wall of the henhouse.

Built-up litter and dropping pits are two of the greatest labor-savers of all. You can leave built-up litter in your henhouse a year if you keep it dry. Stir the litter with a garden tractor to help keep it dry. Dropping pits usually do not need to be cleaned more than once a year.

Here are some other labor-savers:

1. Install an automatic switch to control artificial lights.
2. Combine all possible jobs on each trip to the henhouse.
3. Reduce the number of times jobs are done.
4. Produce clean eggs.
5. Keep all doors, windows and other fixtures in good repair.

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7/14/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 21, 1952

Moderate Grazing Pays in Better Pastures

Moderate grazing pays off in better pastures.

You'll have to know what the carrying capacities of your pastures are before you'll know how heavily to graze them, according to H. A. Cate, extension specialist at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station of the University of Illinois.

Carrying capacity varies with soil fertility level and the kinds of grasses and legumes you have planted in your pasture mixtures. It also varies from year to year, depending on weather conditions.

Experimental grazing studies at the Dixon Springs Station showed moderately grazed pastures carrying about .65 of an animal unit on each acre. That means that two cows and their calves were grazed on every three acres. One yearling steer to an acre or 10 mature ewes to every three acres would be comparable grazing rates.

Over a four-year period, more pounds of meat have been produced per acre on the moderately grazed fields than on the heavily grazed fields there, according to Cate. The advantage grows every year, because the moderately grazed fields maintain a desirable mixture of grasses and legumes while the heavily grazed field have lost most of their legumes.

Overgrazing early in the year is especially bad. Pastures eaten to the ground early in the spring do not have enough leaf surface left for good root growth, and their slow recovery reduces their value for the rest of the season. Forage crops are generally maintained longer if they are used for hay or silage rather than for pasture. The reason is that hay or silage crops are allowed to mature before they are cut, while pasture crops are eaten off while they are still young.

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RAJ:mi
7/14/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 21, 1952

Use Wood Residues to Improve Soil Tilth

If you live near a sawmill, you probably have a good source of comparatively cheap mulching, bedding or soil-building material.

Use of sawdust, shavings or chips on farms is growing, according to W. L. Meek, forest products specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture. And latest information indicates that they are good for soils.

Published information from the U. S. Department of Agriculture says that most wood chips, shavings and sawdust do not contain any harmful products. They do not "sour" soil. In fact, the final effect is a slight alkaline increase, since some potash remains after the wood has completely decayed.

When the two main organic compounds in wood, cellulose and lignin, decay in the soil, they add needed humus. However, Meek adds that wood adds very little plant food to the soil, and you should not consider it as fertilizer.

As a matter of fact, use of wood as soil-building material temporarily causes a nitrogen shortage for crops grown on the soil. You'll need to add nitrogen fertilizer with the wood products. The USDA recommends about half a pound of ammonium nitrate or three-fourths of a pound of ammonium sulphate for each bushel of wood residue. That equals about 72 or 115 pounds for each ton of dry material.

Wood residues also make excellent mulch materials for orchards, blueberries, strawberries and other fruit, as well as for vegetables and flowers, provided you add sufficient nitrogen. Wood used for bedding later makes excellent soil builder because of the manure it contains.

For further information, Write to the USDA, Washington, 25, D. C., for Circular 891, "Use of Sawdust for Mulches," or for Leaflet 323, "Wood Chips for the Land."

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RAJ:mi
7/15/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 21, 1952

Grade A Milk Needs No Special Housing

If you are planning to enter the Grade A milk market, you may be confused about the kind of dairy buildings you need for compliance.

Although no new requirements have been added by the State Department of Public Health, it might be a good idea for you to check with your local health authorities and your county farm adviser before you go ahead with your plans for new dairy buildings. That's the advice offered by Keith Hinchcliff, extension agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

The "loose housing" system of producing Grade A milk has several valuable features, says Hinchcliff. And you can choose from a wide variety of plans.

Oldest and simplest system is a row of stalls, usually for 4 to 6 cows, similar to stalls in a stanchion barn. You can easily add this type of milking stall to an existing barn along with milk room and feed supply. In that case you can reconvert it to other uses without too much trouble.

Since this system demands more work, it may be better in the long run to use either elevated stalls or ground-level stalls with a pit for the operator. Both of these systems save stooping and bending.

One of the most popular arrangements has three elevated stalls in a row, with an operator's area alongside. Or you can form the stalls into a "U" shape, with the operator in the middle.

Look at plans for all these arrangements at your county farm adviser's office. Ask him to show you the Midwest Plan Service catalog on dairy housing. Or you can send 35 cents to the University of Illinois, Urbana, for a copy.

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7/14/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 21, 1952

Protect Livestock Against Disease at Fair Time

With fair time starting in Illinois, livestock showmen are being urged to be careful that "wins" at the fair aren't followed by disease losses on the farm.

Dr. G. T. Woods, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says even blue-ribbon winners are subject to disease. That's why it's important to take every possible precaution to protect your livestock if you enter them at the fair.

After the fair, isolate the show stock from the home animals for at least 30 days. If the show animals are healthy at the end of this period, they can be put back into the herd.

If you plan to show your livestock, have your veterinarian examine them in plenty of time before the fair. If they are healthy, he will give them the health certificate which is required for entry. If an animal has a slight infection, the veterinarian may be able to clear it up in plenty of time.

"But don't wait until the last day to call the veterinarian," Dr. Woods advises. If you do, that may be just the day he's busy on the other side of the county.

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LEA:mi
7/15/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 21, 1952

Hudelson to Be Acting Dean of UI Ag College

Robert R. Hudelson, associate dean of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, was appointed acting dean of that college by the University Board of Trustees at its meeting on July 16 in Allerton Park. He will assume the new position for one year, starting September 1, when Dean H. P. Rusk retires.

Dean Hudelson was also named acting director of the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station and acting director of the Illinois Extension Service in agriculture and home economics, positions which Dean Rusk had also held.

A member of the University faculty for the past 27 years, Hudelson has been associate dean of the college of agriculture since 1943. He was assistant dean from 1933 to 1943.

From 1920 to 1925, Hudelson was in farm management work at the college. During this period he served as assistant professor of farm organization and management and later as associate professor and associate chief in the department of agricultural economics.

The new dean also served as acting dean of commerce from January 1951 to February 1952.

Hudelson received his bachelor's and doctor's degrees from the University of Illinois and his master's degree from the University of Missouri. He served on the faculty at Missouri for eight years, during which time he also served in the military forces in World War I.

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7/17/52

for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 28, 1952

New Oat Varieties May Replace Half of Clinton by 1954

Half of the present acreage planted to Clinton-type oats in Illinois may be replaced by new varieties by 1954, according to a University of Illinois agronomist.

Crop production specialist J. W. Pendleton reports that Missouri 0-205, a new variety that is resistant to crown and stem rust, will be available generally by 1954. Moderate supplies are expected to be ready for farmers next year.

This new variety yields as well as Clinton in northern and central Illinois and better than Clinton in southern counties. It's about five days earlier than Clinton, has higher test weight and grows a little taller. Straw is a little weaker, but seedsmen have reported no trouble in combining Missouri 0-205.

LaSalle oats, another new variety, probably will not be generally available until 1954, Pendleton said. The only field planted in 1951 for seed increase was hailed out, delaying the general release date one year.

LaSalle is a high-yielder that matures almost a week before Clinton.

A third new oat, Clinton x Santa Fe, is being test-planted in Illinois this year. A big seed increase program is now underway in Iowa, where it was developed at Iowa State College. Clinton x Santa Fe carries the desirable Clinton characteristics, plus the resistance of Santa Fe to crown rust.

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7/21/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 28, 1952

Cull Laying Flock All Through Season

For most economical egg production cull your laying flock continuously throughout the whole year.

When a hen stops laying, she stops paying for the feed she eats, says Sam Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture. Then she should be taken from the laying flock immediately.

Culling starts with strict selection of the pullets you want to keep for layers. But you can keep up an efficient level of egg production in your flock only by culling throughout the whole year, Ridlen states.

Fortunately, hens keep a record of their performance on their bodies, and you can learn to recognize these "signs." You can easily separate the layers from the nonlayers. It's a little harder to tell which of the nonlayers are going to stay out of production long enough to warrant removing them from the flock.

As a general rule, a laying hen's comb and wattles are large, bright red, glossy and warm. When a bird goes out of production, her comb darkens, shrivels or shrinks in size and later becomes pale and cold. In a laying hen the pubic bones are spread wide to allow the egg to pass between them, while the pubic bones of the nonlayer will be much closer together and the tips tend to curve in toward the body.

The vent if a laying hen is large, moist, soft and pliable. The vent of a hen out of production is small and dry, and the muscles are tightly contracted.

You can also class birds on their past production by pigmentation and molt. Bleaching of pigment and molting both are regular and orderly. Generally the later a bird molts, the later she will keep on laying.

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RAJ:mi
7/21/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 28, 1952

Farm Families Want Fireplace in Home

If you have been thinking about putting a fireplace in your farmhouse, you will find that many other farm families have the same idea.

More than one-third of the farm families in the north central states reported in a survey that they would like to have a fireplace when they build a new home, says Keith Hinchcliff, extension farm structures specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Hinchcliff points out that a fireplace is largely ornamental in a modern home with automatic heat. But it can also be useful on chilly days and evenings in the spring and fall when the heating system is turned off.

If you want the most efficient use of the heat, use a hollow metal lining in the fireplace, Hinchcliff suggests. Metal linings let up to four times as much heat enter a room as masonry fireplaces, and you can pipe the heat to other rooms.

Modern fireplaces may differ considerably from the traditional Early American type. Hearths today are sometimes raised several inches or a foot or more. Since your fire is largely decorative, it might as well be up where you can see it.

For this reason too the fireplace opening is sometimes widened to include an end view or is left open all the way around so that you can see the fire from both sides. This type of fireplace requires special setting of the damper and the right flue size to take care of the increased air volume and to prevent smoking.

For safety from fire there should be two inches of fireproof materials between masonry and any stud, joint or rafter. A flue lining is also important as a safety feature and in promoting a better draft. For more information see your county farm adviser, or send 10 cents to the Small Homes Council, University of Illinois, Urbana, for their circular on chimneys and fireplaces.

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RAJ:mi
7/21/52

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 28, 1952

Dutch Girl Visiting Illinois Farms

Miss Martje Smit, 22-year-old farm girl from The Netherlands, will spend the next three months visiting on Illinois farms.

One of the nearly 100 International Farm Youth Exchange delegates from foreign countries who are expected to live and work on farms in the United States this summer, Miss Smit arrived in New York from Holland on July 8.

Until August 3 she will visit in McHenry county on the farms of Mr. and Mrs. George Richardson, Spring Grove; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Deenees, Marengo; and Miss Sarah Low, Harvard. From August 3 to 9 she will attend Rural Youth State Camp near Monticello, and from August 9 to 16 she will be at the State Fair at Springfield.

Tentative plans now are for Miss Smit to visit farm homes in Whiteside county from August 16 to September 12 and in Bond county from September 13 to October 9. She will then spend two days at the University of Illinois, Urbana, and leave on October 13 for a three months' visit in Georgia.

Miss Smit lives on a 150-acre farm in Holland which produces wheat, oats, beets, potatoes and flax. She attended elementary school, high school and two years of home economics school and then worked for a year with the Royal Netherlands Agricultural Commission. She speaks English very well and will probably be asked to tell about her home country at several adult and youth meetings during her stay in Illinois.

Goal of the 1952 International Farm Youth Exchange program is 135 two-way exchanges. The summer exchange has 90 U. S. delegates from 34 states and Alaska visiting farms in Europe and the Middle East.

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/21/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 28, 1952

Shade Protects Pullets Against Blue Comb Disease

Be sure to provide plenty of range shelters for your pullets from now through September--they're good protection against blue comb disease.

Dr. J. O. Alberts, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says the cause of blue comb disease is still unknown, but it seems to cause the most trouble in flocks with inadequate shade and a poor water supply.

Some research workers believe there is a connection between blue comb outbreaks and changes in temperature and humidity, Dr. Alberts states. Usually outbreaks occur 3 to 4 days after periods of high temperature and humidity.

Most of the birds in the flock become sick when the disease strikes. Losses average 5 percent. In laying pullets, egg production may not return to normal for several weeks.

Here are symptoms of the disease: Birds stop eating. In the advanced stages they are feverish, their combs and wattles turn blue-purple, they may get diarrhea and the skin of their legs shrivels.

If the disease strikes, supply affected birds with shade, ventilation and cool water, Dr. Alberts advises. Slow down on feeding grain for 3-4 days, but keep mash before them. Adding one tablespoon of potassium chloride to each gallon of drinking water for 5 to 7 days may also help.

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/23/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JULY 28, 1952

Have Plenty of Circuits for Farm Electricity

Your farm electrical system may not be big enough to carry those new appliances or motors you may be planning to buy or have already bought.

Dean W. Winter, farm fire protection specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says you should have an experienced electrician or your power use adviser check your wire size and your need for more electric circuits before you add any more motors.

All wiring should be installed in such a way that it complies with the regulations of the National Electrical Code, Winter points out.

Here's a case where a separate electrical circuit would come in mighty handy: If you depend on an electric pump for your water supply, put the motor on its own circuit direct from the main yard pole. Then if you have a fire you can cut off the electricity to the burning building and still have power to pump water to fight the fire.

RAJ:mi
7/21/52

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Illinois 4-H'ers Get Santa Fe Awards

Three Illinois 4-H Club boys or girls with top-ranking records will get an expense-paid trip to 1952 National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago provided by the Santa Fe Railway System.

To be eligible for these awards, 4-H members must have passed their 14th birthday but must not have passed their 21st birthday on January 1, 1952. They must also have completed at least three years of 4-H Club work, including this year. This program is conducted under the direction of the Extension Service of the Illinois College of Agriculture.

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RAJ:mi
7/21/52

for weeklies

Farm News

IVERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 4, 1952

AN AGRICULTURAL NEWS REPORT FROM EUROPE

Germany Starts Program to Train Agricultural Editors

By Hadley Read, Extension Editor
College of Agriculture, University of Illinois
Agricultural Information Consultant for MSA in Europe

BONN, GERMANY---When a U.S. farmer is asked where he found out about a new idea he is using, he is likely to say that he read about it in his newspaper or magazine or that he heard about it on the radio.

When he says that, he is giving deserved credit to the tremendously important role played by the U.S. farm editors in getting new information to farm people in a hurry.

Here in Germany the process of reporting new information has been much slower, and this has slowed down agricultural progress. That's why careful use has been made of Marshall Plan funds to strengthen the agricultural advisory service of the Ministry of Agriculture.

This week, here in Bad Godesberg, another important step is being taken to speed up the reporting of new agricultural information. With the assistance of Marshall Plan funds, the German Ministry of Agriculture has established a 3 months' training course in agricultural journalism and agricultural information methods.

Bryant Kearl, extension editor and head of agricultural journalism at the University of Wisconsin, is in charge of the course, and his "students" will

include 14 young professors from seven German colleges and universities. When the training period is completed, these young professors will return to their universities and set up classes and courses in agricultural journalism for Germany's agricultural college students. Under this program, Germany's universities, for the first time, will be training agricultural editors for future work on newspapers, magazines and radio and television stations.

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for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 4, 1952

Date Announced for Dairy Day

Illinois dairymen will "have their day" September 3 on the University of Illinois campus.

That's the date for the first Dairy Day program being planned by members of the dairy science department in the College of Agriculture.

Department Head G. W. Salisbury reports that the dairy scientists are going "all out" to make the program a practical and interesting day on the campus for all who attend. And everyone is invited, he adds.

Top speakers scheduled for the program are E. E. Heizer, head of the dairy husbandry department at the University of Wisconsin, and C. B. Bender, director of research in grassland farming for the Sperry Corporation. Both are nationally known for their work in the dairying field.

For the dairy farmer who likes to "see for himself," the dairy scientists are planning a special series of exhibits showing results of research on new feeding and other practices. And there will be demonstrations of recent models of hay-making machines in action and tours of the University herds and buildings to round the day out, Salisbury says.

The program will get under way at 9:30 a.m. (DST) with an open house starting at the main dairy barns. The afternoon program, in the stock pavilion, is scheduled to adjourn at 4:15.

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7/29/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 4, 1952

Plan Farm Bathrooms to Fit Your Needs

When you plan bathroom improvements for your farm home, remember that farmhouse needs differ somewhat from those in town homes.

Besides the full bath, it is especially important in farm homes to plan also for wash-up space for the men of the family. So says Keith H. Hinchcliff, extension farm structures specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

It might be better, Hinchcliff suggests, if you plan a separate washroom so that you can keep the bathroom in order easier. A separate washroom near the back door in a first-floor workroom or in the basement is ideal for farm homes.

When you have a separate place for the men to use, you can pay more attention to locating the bathroom where it is convenient to the bedrooms. In many of the older farm homes, a downstairs bedroom is large enough to take off a 6 by 8 foot bathroom space and still have enough space left for a bedroom or office.

Sometimes it is possible to add a bathroom along with a new kitchen and workroom wing so that you can keep the plumbing together for convenience and economy. But in that case it might take special planning and care to keep the bathroom near the bedrooms, too.

For several ideas on locating the bathroom in farmhouses, ask your county farm or home adviser for the free leaflet, "How to Remodel Your Model-T Farmhouse," or write directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 4, 1952

New Disease Strikes Illinois Hogs

Watch your swine herd for vesicular exanthema. It's a new disease that looks like foot and mouth disease. But it affects only hogs.

Dr. G. T. Woods, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says the disease has been diagnosed in three garbage-fed swine herds near Chicago. It was first reported in California in 1932 and recently has appeared in Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, yoming, Utah, South Dakota, New Jersey, Oregon and Washington.

"Farmers are urged to cooperate with their local veterinarians and state and federal livestock sanitary officials during this eriod to keep the disease from spreading," Dr. Woods states.

The disease is caused by a virus that is spread by contaminated food or water, and particularly by uncooked garbage containing pork trimmings. Death losses are highest in suckling pigs. Other losses include reduced gains in growing pigs and abortions in sows.

Symptoms of the disease to watch for are watery blisters on he snout, lips, gums or tongue or about the feet. Nursing sows may lso have the blisters on their teats and udders. The blisters rupure and heal. If a disease of this description appears in your swine erd, immediately notify your local veterinarian.

Hogs that recover are resistant to another attack for several onths. No immunizing agents are available to prevent the disease.

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Control Worms for Best Pork Production

Adding aureomycin and vitamin B_{12} to feeds does not overcome the ill effect of worms in hogs.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that the results of a USDA experiment show that you still need to control worms even when you feed aureomycin and vitamin B_{12}.

In the test eight 10-week-old pigs were divided into two groups of four. Each group contained pigs from the same two litters. At the beginning of the experiment there was not more than a pound of difference in weight between the groups of pigs.

One lot of pigs was fed a regular ration, and the other group was fed the regular ration plus 6 pounds of a crude mixture of vitamin B_{12} and aureomycin for each ton of feed. Two days after the pigs were divided, two pigs in each lot were infested with worms. The pigs were weighed and slaughtered 169 days later.

The worm-free pigs on the regular ration plus aureomycin and vitamin B_{12} gained 161 pounds each, but those infested with worms on this diet gained 118 and 120 pounds. The worm-free pigs on the regular ration gained 98 and 154 pounds each, and those infested with worms on the regular diet gained 70 and 84 pounds each.

These results further show that pigs gain faster when they are fed growth-promoting antibiotics and vitamins. But it also shows that worms limit this growth in spite of the antibiotics and vitamins.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 4, 1952

Gallatin County Farmer Wins Wheat Contest

James Raben of Gallatin county has been named winner of the 1952 10-acre wheat improvement contest for southern Illinois.

Officials of the Illinois Crop Improvement association who judged the entries report that Raben's wheat was nearly perfect. His score was 91.56 out of a possible total of 100.

Raben followed the recommended practice of testing his field for lime, phosphate and potash deficiencies and then applied the needed materials before seeding Saline wheat last fall. At seeding time he applied 300 pounds of a mixed 10-15-20 fertilizer per acre and in the spring top-dressed the field with 100 pounds of a nitrogen fertilizer per acre.

Earl Lutz, Gallatin county farm adviser, reports that Raben's 10 contest acres averaged 45 bushels an acre at harvest time. Among other factors that helped Raben take top honors were highest population of wheat plants in the rows and highest number of kernels on each head of wheat among all the entries.

Second place in the contest went to Clarence Akin of Lawrence county with a score of 90.55. His planting of Royal variety wheat yielded about 40 bushels an acre at harvest time. Third place was awarded to Pernie Marks and son of Edwards county with a Saline wheat entry, and fourth place was won by Howard Eade of Washington county with Vigo wheat.

Judging was based on field purity and uniformity, weeds or other crop mixtures and diseases, soil management and culture, population of plants an acre and kernels of wheat on each head. The Extension Service of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture co-operated in the contest.

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for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 11, 1952

Chickens Do Better Without Coccidiosis

If you're a poultryman, you may have heard that every chicken should have coccidiosis. A University of Illinois veterinarian disagrees.

Dr. J. O. Alberts of the College of Veterinary Medicine says chickens should no more have coccidiosis so they will be immune after they recover than children should have measles or polio. Profitable poultry raising still calls for keeping coccidiosis out of your flock.

You'll lose five ways by letting your flock have coccidiosis: Some birds will die, others will be stunted, many of them will not utilize their feed efficiently, gains will be interrupted, and you'll have to buy expensive drugs to control the infection.

There still is no substitute for sanitation and good flock management practices when you want healthy chickens, Dr. Alberts says.

To prevent coccidiosis, keep the feeding and watering equipment clean by washing it in boiling water, avoid overcrowding, keep the houses dry, and rotate the range area. Like most diseases, coccidiosis prefers damp, warm surroundings with limited sunlight.

Other precautions against this costly disease are listed in circular 485, "Coccidiosis in Poultry." Write the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, Urbana, or ask your farm adviser for a copy.

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8/6/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 11,1952

Treating Wood Saves Time and Money

It's easy to save time and money around your farm or home by treating new window and door screens, porches, steps and other replacement wood pieces with a chemical preservative.

Time saved comes from the fact that treated wood resists rot several times longer than untreated wood. And, you save money for the same reason, says C. S. Walters, forest products utilization specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Whenever you have the job of replacing rotted wood fixtures around your farm buildings or home you might consider using treated wood for replacement. Cold soaking for three minutes will give effective treatment for many years on millwork. Or, you can simply brush the preservative on to give added life.

Commercially treated wood is best, and nearly all window sash and many other ready-to-use products are now treated before you buy them. Check with your lumber dealer to find out if your new wood is treated before you go to the trouble and expense of treating it yourself. If you do any cutting, planning or fitting of treated wood, you should brush treat the exposed wood before installation.

Soaking and dipping are better than brushing on preservative, Walters says. You will need to have some sort of tank to do your own soaking. Its size will depend on the requirements of the wood you are planning to soak. You can make an effective tank for fence posts by welding together two or three 55-gallon oil drums and sinking them in the ground.

If you want to paint the new wood, get the paintable kind of preservative at your lumber yard. Let it dry thoroughly before you try to paint over it. Although some preservatives are water-repellent they all are effective mainly because they poison the food supply of the decay fungi and repel or kill insects which destroy wood.

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8/6/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 11, 1952

Start Slow in Feeding Artificial Milk

If you are planning to do a little experimenting with feeding a commercial artificial milk product to your pigs this fall, it might be wise to start in a small way.

That's the advice of S. W. Terrill, head of the swine division at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture. Use artificial milk only for extra or orphan pigs or for just one litter or two until you have some experience as a guide, Terrill suggests.

It is entirely possible that a system of raising pigs on artificial milk may well revolutionize the enitre swine industry, the swine specialist points out. But there are still many questions about such a system that remain to be answered. The needed research takes time, labor and facilities.

Present high interest in feeding artificial milk to baby pigs has been brought about by the average death loss of 30 percent of all pigs farrowed, too light weaning weights under conventional feeding systems and too many runt pigs. The development of pig hatcheries has also increased interest in artificial feeding.

Some of the advantages of feeding artificial milk are that you can raise more pigs per litter, wean heavier pigs, produce a more uniform pig crop, get pigs on feed sooner, reduce sow feed costs and save space and labor requirements.

On the other hand, feeding artificial milk requires much special management skill to be successful, it does not reduce death loss as much as you might expect, costs are higher and the pigs may be less resistant to disease.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 11, 1952

Elaborate Layout not Needed for Poultry Profits

Some excellent examples of low investment, good management, and high returns were seen in a recent tour of poutlry farms in Livingston county.

E. E. Broadbent, University of Illinois poultry and egg marketing specialist, reports that at one farm visitors saw how an old horse barn had been converted to house 330 hens. Stalls were removed, concrete floor put in and walls insulated with straw and board sheeting on the inside. Another 300 hens were kept in old but sturdy sheds which had also been remodeled at small expense.

On another farm tour members looked at a larger low-cost hen house with 325 hen downstairs and 375 more on the upper floor. This too was a converted horse barn, originally built with a hayloft above. The side doors, built large enough to drive through with a team and hay wagon, were ideal for providing plenty of ventilation.

These poultry buildings were old, but management practices on the farms were up to the minute, and that's what counts, Broadbent emphasizes. Flocks on both farms returned between $3 and $4 above feed cost per bird last year. Both operators are member of the Illinois Farm Bureau Farm Management Service and keep good records. They gather eggs often, handle them to preserve Grade A quality and sell them on a graded basis.

Production practices that help make their businesses pay include using dropping pits, deep litter, plenty of nests, straw lofts, plenty of ventilation and fresh drinking water, and following tested feeding and sanitation recommendations.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 11, 1952

Some Silo Coatings Reduce Silage Etching

Styrene-based material have given good protection from the etching of silage acids on concrete silos in two years of tests at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

Some other silo coatings tested were found worse than useless and a complete waste of money and time, according to Keith H. Hinchcliff, extension farm structures specialist at the College.

You will be likely to have more etching from silage acids the second year after protective coatings are applied than the first year, Hinchcliff says. For instance, losses of wall material were between three and five times as great the second year of the University tests as the first. One good coating may be effective for four or five years.

However, silo walls that were covered with effective coatings lost only about one-sixth as much material as uncoated areas. Some of the least effective coatings did not resist etching at all the second year.

Styrene-based coatings showed up far better than asphalts and crude oil applications in the tests. However, a simple, inexpensive half-and-half mixture of linseed oil and turpentine ranked among the top third of the coatings in effectiveness.

Rubber-based paints were about halfway between the better and poorer coatings tried.

Several new seals have been added to the tests this year in silos at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station. Results of those tests will be available next spring.

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for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 1952

AN AGRICULTURAL NEWS REPORT FROM EUROPE

U.S. Aids Germany's Agricultural Winter Schools

By Hadley Read, Extension Editor
College of Agriculture, University of Illinois
Agricultural Information Consultant for MSA in Europe

BONN, GERMANY---When the complete story of Germany's postwar agricultural recovery is written, one long chapter will have to be reserved for the revitalized role of the Agriclutural "Winter" Schools for farm boys and girls.

These schools, unlike anything in the United States, have a long tradition in the German educational system. But during the war years both the facilities and the system were allowed to deteriorate. Now, with carefully supervised Marshall Plan help from the United States, important steps are being taken to reestablish these schools as an essential part of the educational program for young farm people.

Since 1949, U.S. aid totaling more than 10 million D Marks ($2.4 million) has been used for the reconstruction and improvement of school facilities and for furnishing teaching materials. Nearly a third of the Federal Republic's 540 "Winter" Schools have benefited from this financial assistance. In some of the Landkreis (rural counties), completely new schools have been built. Others have been repaired and enlarged until today there is at least one sound physical educational plant in each of the Landkreis.

The importance of these schools to agriculture can be easily understood when their place in the over-all German educational system is examined. Under this system a child may follow one of two programs. He may go to a public school for four years and then enter a nine-year "high school," after which he may enter a college or a University. Only a relatively few farm boys and girls can follow this program.

The majority of the rural young people continue in the public schools for another four years as required by German law and then attend special classes one day each week for another year to two. This means that, were it not for the "Winter" Schools, the formal education for most German rural young people would end after eight or nine years with no opportunity for special training in agriculture. With the "Winter" School system, the young people can, if they wish, continue their education on an intensive basis during the winter months for two more years. In addition, these schools serve as the hub for nearly all agricultural education activities in the Landkreis, including the revived agricultural extension programs.

On the recent trip to the agricultural research center at Volkenrode, I isited a typical Agricultural "Winter" School in the bustling rural city of Peine hich is located between Hannover and Braunschweig - about 60 miles from the Russian one border.

With understandable pride, School Director H. Bender took us on a tour of he new school building complete a year ago at a cost of 360,000 D Marks. Director H. ender proudly explained that plans for building the new school had been started be- ore he learned that limited assistance could be obtained from Marshall Plan funds. ore than 100,000 D Marks were raised by local donations, with another 160,000 D Marks oming from the state and county. Marshall Plan funds were used to underwrite the re- ining cost.

This new school is the agricultural center for the 56 farm communities and 2,000 farms which make up the Landkreis. Nearly 100 farm boys and girls are enrolled in the winter classes. The classrooms and laboratories are modern and well equipped. Equipment is available for showing teaching movies and slides. But the contributions of the school do not stop with classroom teaching. Director H. Bender insisted that we visit the small but efficient soil-testing laboratory in the school basement. Here farmers can have their soil tested for plant food needs.

During the winter months, four or five educational meetings are held each week in the various farm community centers. The school has established more than 80 seed certification centers, 58 fertilizer demonstration plots and 6 potato demonstration plots. In all of these activities the aim is to provide the farmer with the information he needs to do a better job on his farm. This is an example of practical democracy at work.

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for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 18, 1952

Annual Turkey Growers' Meeting September 11

Members of the Illinois State Turkey Growers' Association will meet on Thursday, September 11, at Paul Law's Turkey Farm, Mt. Carroll, for their annual fall meeting.

Keith Chidley, Palatine, president of the association, announces that the growers will assemble at the Law farm at 10 a.m. CST for a tour of local turkey flocks.

Byron Hutchins, Carroll county farm adviser, will be the master of ceremonies for the afternoon program starting at 1 o'clock. Frank G. Wollney, Institute of American Poultry Industries, Chicago, will discuss "What's Ahead in Turkey Marketing?" He will be followed by Dr. J. O. Alberts, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, whose subject is "What's New in Diseases and Disease Control."

At 2 p.m. C. D. Jones, Arcady Farms Milling Company, Chicago, will talk about feeds, and M. C. Small, executive secretary of the National Turkey Federation, Mt. Morris, will answer the question of what to do with all the turkeys. The outlook for the turkey situation will be forecast by Dr. L. A. Wilhelm, assistant head of the poultry department at Purdue.

The meeting is scheduled to adjourn at 3:15 p.m.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 18, 1952

Flat Roofs Adaptable For Farm Homes

Some farm families just don't like the looks of a flat-roofed farmhouse.

That fact came out in a recent regional farm housing survey which showed that farm people prefer sloping roofs over flat ones for their farm homes, according to Keith H. Hinchcliff.

Hinchcliff, extension farm structures specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says others of the families answering the survey may have found the rooms under flat roofs to be warm in summer. Others may have had difficulty in keeping flat roofs from leaking.

However, the specialist believes that increasing and successful use of flat roofs for town houses is making them more acceptable on the farms. Most of the objectionable features of flat roofs can be overcome.

If you don't like the "boxy" look, for instance, you can largely overcome that with a wide overhang. The overhang also provides protection from the summer sun for the new picture windows that many farm families are putting in their homes.

Reflector-type insulation, especially when it is combined with blanket or bat type, effectively protects the rooms below and keeps them as comfortable both summer and winter as roofs with attics.

As for leaky flat roofs, built-up bituminous roofs have provided water-tight roofs for many years where they are properly

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installed. Don't compare them with the tar-paper coverings sometimes used on porches and sheds.

There are other advantages of flat roofs, Hinchcliff points out. The fact that there is no attic space means that there is less danger from fire. Flat roofs are particularly adaptable to house plans which have many corners, because flat roofs are less complicated to frame and have no valleys to become leaky.

You can study these and other points of comparison by getting a copy of the new leaflet, "Choosing a Roof for Your Farmhouse." Get a free copy from your county farm or home adviser, or write directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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Half of Farm Machinery Accidents Involve Tractors

Safe operation of the 3,000,000 tractors in use on farms today could save hundreds of lives and thousands of serious injuries every year.

Records of the Illinois Rural Safety Council show that tractors are involved in more than half of the farm machinery accidents. The principal causes involve falling from or being thrown off the tractor, overturning, unguarded power take-off shafts, and violation of traffic rules on the highway.

You can't afford to gamble on the loss of a limb or life by operating without the power take-off shield in place. Carelessness in handling tractors around ditches can start a trip to the hospital. Jumping off a tractor or making adjustments while in motion is another way to invite an accident. You can easily lose a child by permitting children to operate or hitch a ride on tractors.

When operating on the highway, always obey traffic rules and avoid excessive speeds. Stop before entering main highways, and use a red flag high up on the tractor to warn motorists of slow-moving equipment. Use headlights and taillights after dark.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 18, 1952

Fall-Seeded Rye Pasture Will Save Pig Supplement

Grazing four or five bred sows or gilts on an acre of fall-seeded rye pasture can save as much as 100 pounds of grain mixture and 500 pounds of alfalfa hay.

In addition, fall-seeded rye pasture makes a valuable crop for grazing sows and litters in early spring at the rate of 12 sows and litters to an acre, according to S. W. Terrill.

Terrill, head of the swine division at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says the feed saved by each acre of pasture over drylot feeding with sows and litters in the Illinois tests amounted to almost 100 bushels of corn and 560 pounds of supplement.

Work at the Illinois Experiment Station has shown that feeding bred gilts and sows in drylot during late growth, gestation and lactation periods make it difficult to provide the nutrients they require. It is easy to supply the needed vitamins and other growth-producing factors by running the sows and gilts on good legume pasture, Terrill says.

You can do your part to get strong, healthy litters by providing your brood sows with good pasture throughout as much of the year as possible. Use legume or legume-grass pastures during the summer. Extend the pasture season into the fall, winter and early spring by using fall-sown rye.

When you can't keep your brood sows on good pasture, feed them liberal amounts of high-quality alfalfa meal or hay. In mixed rations include 10 to 15 percent of high-quality alfalfa meal. Dehydrated alfalfa meal apparently contains an unknown "survival factor" that promotes the strength and thrift of pigs farrowed by sows fed continuously in drylot.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 18, 1952

New Booklet Outlines Elm Disease Control

Ways to prevent and control Dutch elm disease and elm phloem necrosis are outlined in the new U. S. Department of Agriculture Leaflet 329.

These diseases are continuing to spread and kill thousands of elms, the most important and widely grown shade tree in Illinois, according to J. N. Spaeth, head of the forestry department at the Illinois College of Agriculture. Most elms, particularly American and winged elms growing in the east, midwest and south, are plagued with one or both diseases.

Insects spread both of these diseases. Elm bark beetles carry the Dutch elm fungus from tree to tree, and a leafhopper spreads the virus that causes phloem necrosis.

Best way now known to control the diseases is to control the insects, Spaeth says. The department recommends timely and thorough spraying of elm trees with DDT. To control leafhopper, spray the foliage with a DDT mixture before July 1, when the first leaves are full grown. Apply a second foliage spray six weeks later.

You can kill bark beetles by spraying elm bark in late winter or early spring before the trees have leafed out and then using a foliage spray 90 days later. Early season burning or spraying of the dead trees, broken limbs or logs helps to control Dutch elm disease.

For full information on detecting these diseases,and mixing and applying the sprays write for Leaflet 329, "Control of Dutch Elm Disease and Elm Phloem Necrosis," Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

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Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 25, 1952

Ladino Seems Best for Swine Pastures

Good Ladino clover pasture has been an efficient supplement-saver for many Illinois swine growers.

Some growers have reported savings of 30 to 50 percent in protein supplement with Ladino over other good legume pastures, says H. G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

A University of Illinois test is now being carried on,Russell says, to determine to what extent Ladino clover pasture will take the place of protein supplement and grain for bred gilts as well as for sows. Bred gilts may need grain in addition to pasture, because they are putting on body weight and growth at the same time they are developing baby pigs.

Other experiment station trials and farmer experience have indicated that mature sows can get along very well on Ladino clover without grain during the summer months. If you haven't tried Ladino, you haven't taken advantage of the feed-saving possibilities of this high-quality legume pasture crop, Russell adds.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 25, 1952

UI Has Welcome Mat Out to All Illinois Dairymen

Dairy housing, legume silage, current research projects and modern hay-making equipment will all be stressed at the Dairy Day program offered to visiting dairymen at the University of Illinois on September 3.

According to J. G. Cash, dairy specialist in the College of Agriculture, final plans call for the program to begin promptly at 9:30 DST at the stock pavilion. Cash expects the morning tours and demonstrations to be one of the popular high lights of the day, especially to those who will be visiting the campus for the first time.

Tours will take the group to see the dairy barns, University herds and current research projects in progress by the department of dairy science. Then following the demonstrations of hay crushers and other equipment for making high-quality hay, the visitors will take time out for noon lunch in the Illini Grove east of the new veterinary medicine building.

Headlining the afternoon speaking program will be G. W. Salisbury, head of the UI department of dairy science; E. E. Heizer, head of the University of Wisconsin dairy husbandry department; and C. B. Bender, of the Sperry Corporation, New York.

Salisbury will discuss experimental work now in progress at the University, Heizer will talk on the dairy housing situation and Bender will report on making high-quality legume-grass silage.

Cash emphasizes that all Illinois dairy farmers and others interested in this program are invited to attend. The program is scheduled to adjourn at 4:15 p.m.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 25, 1952

Smith Heads Ag College Student Affairs

Assistant Dean C. D. Smith of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture will take over the responsibilities of the associate dean in charge of the resident teaching program and student affairs on September 1.

Smith takes over these responsibilities from R. R. Hudelson, who will serve for one year as acting dean of the College to succeed retiring Dean H. P. Rusk. Smith has already served one year in the same capacity while Associate Dean Hudelson headed the College of Commerce as acting dean last year.

No other administrative changes are being made at this time, according to Dean Hudelson. Marshall J. Scott will continue in the associate dean's office as director of the winter short course to be held next December.

Assistant Dean Smith will be in charge of registration and student placement and will supervise courses and curricula. A graduate of Metamora high school, he received a B.S. degree in general agriculture at the University of Illinois in 1941 and an M.S. degree in education in 1951.

Following his graduation from Illinois, Smith spent five years on active duty with the army. He returned to the University as administrative assistant to Associate Dean Hudelson in September 1946. He was appointed assistant dean in 1951. His honor societies include Gamma Sigma Delta, Alpha Zeta, Phalanx and the University Honor Society for four years. He is married and has two children.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 25, 1952

Many Farm Metal Roofs Need Repair

About half of the metal roofs on farm buildings recently surveyed were in need of repair and surface reconditioning.

The survey, conducted by the University of Illinois College of Agriculture in cooperation with the American Zinc Institute, covered 320 Illinois farms in 11 counties in all sections of the state. About 40 percent of farm building roofs in those counties are metal.

Metal roofs are very durable and will last many years if you take care of them, says J. T. Clayton, farm structures specialist at the College. Repainting them when the first signs of rust start breaking through is probably the best thing you can do to keep your metal roofs in good condition.

Use a good-quality zinc-based paint for the first coat, Clayton suggests. Then, use zinc, aluminum or colored paint as a second coat. Scrape all rust spots to remove loose material so that the paint will hold better. Nail down all loose sheets and replace any rotted nailing girts.

If you are putting up a new building and plan a metal roof for it, be sure the nailing girts are close enough together to prevent the wind from bending the sheets. Keep the girts 18 to 24 inches apart. To hold the nails well, nailing girts should be at least two inches thick for softwood and one inch for hardwood. Lap both the ends and sides of the sheets and have the thick side lap face away from the south and west.

For more information on metal roofs, see your county farm adviser, and plan to attend a metal roofing demonstration if there is one in your vicinity. Or you can write directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for information on metal roofing.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 25, 1952

Observe Safety Rules When You Swim

Records of the Illinois Rural Safety Council show that about 6,500 persons in the U. S. lost their lives by drowning last year. Of that number about 3,200 were non-swimming accidents where the people slipped, stumbled or fell into the water.

Rural people can help cut this toll of lives by taking extra care to observe the simple rules for water safety when they are near the water in summer, the council says.

Here are some precautions you can take to make your visit to the water safer:

1. Thoroughly investigate the safety of swimming facilities.
2. Don't swim alone. Never go into the water when you are tired or overheated or for an hour after eating.
3. Don't overload a boat. There may be seats for more people than the boat should carry.
4. Always step into the center of a boat--never jump, never stand up in a boat and never permit horseplay.
5. Do not leave old tubs, boilers, jars, or other containers around the farmstead. It takes as little as two inches of water to drown an infant.
6. Protect stock watering tanks. If possible, fence them off or cover them.
7. Never swim in polluted water.

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AJ:mi
/19/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF AUGUST 25, 1952

D.H.I.A. Testing Pays Big Dividends

Would you trade a one dollar bill for a "ten spot"?

If you have at least 20 cows in your dairy herd, join a dairy herd improvement association and use the D.H.I.A. records to improve production year after year, you may be able to swing a deal very much like that, says L. R. Fryman, dairy specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

At least eight dairymen in Madison county made such a "trade" after about 10 years of D.H.I.A. testing.

Here is how the figures show up in records of those eight herds, which averaged 22 cows: In 1951 those dairymen showed an average return above feed cost for each herd of $1,078 more than if the herds had continued to produce at the same level as before testing was started. And it costs less than $100 a year to test a herd in Madison county.

Fryman reports that the eight herds averaged 59 more pounds of butterfat a cow last year than they did the year testing was started.

With an average production of 380 pounds of fat a cow, the cows returned $49 more over feed cost last year than they would have if still producing at the 321-pound level of 10 years ago.

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/19/52

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1952

Limestone May Be Most Valuable Soil Improvement

Limestone may still make more money for you than any fertilizer you can buy.

A. L. Lang, University of Illlinois soils man, says that in the average rotation crops and leaching losses take about 500 pounds of limestone an acre a year. On that basis most fields will need two tons about every six to eight years. Some fields need four to five tons an acre to build up the lime needs to begin with.

Four tons of limestone on the Brownstown experiment field between 1948 and 1951 increased corn yields from 27 to 53 bushels, soybean yields from 15 to 21 bushels, wheat from 4 to 11 bushels, and hay yields from 400 to 2,600 pounds.

When phosphate and potassium were used in addition to limestone, corn during the same period produced 82 bushels, soybeans 29 bushels and wheat 18 bushels,and the hay yield was more than two tons.

Plantings with phosphate and potassium but no lime gave only 37 bushels of corn, 17 of soybeans, five of wheat and less than half a ton of hay.

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3/26/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1952

Creep-Feed Fall Pigs for Fewer Runts

Creep-feeding fall pigs will furnish them with a high-energy ration at the time when they are making the most economical gains of their lives.

Not only that, but creep feeding will help to eliminate those 20-25 pound pigs at weaning time, says S. W. Terrill, head of the swine division at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Also, death losses have been less in creep-fed pigs in tests at the college than in comparable pigs not on a creep.

Creep rations supplement a sow's declining milk supply as the pigs grow older and demand more feed, Terrill points out. Even when the sows and litters are run on good pasture, creep feeding high-energy supplement gives them an extra, profitable boost.

Pigs that are growing well will eat large amounts of creep ration from the fifth through the eighth week and will put on rapid and economical gains. You can hand-feed or self-feed creep rations. Self-fed rations save labor and are always on hand for the pigs to eat.

Research at Illinois has shown that oat groats are an excellent energy feed when fed free-choice with a supplement. Rolled oats are also good, but it is probably best to use them in a mixed pig starter ration. Yellow corn that is not old and hard can also be fed free-choice with supplement.

It is very important that creep rations be palatable to the pigs. Pigs also seem to prefer pelleted rations to the same rations in the form of meal. They will eat more of mixtures containing molasses than of the the same mixture without molasses.

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AJ:mi
/26/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1952

Grease, Oil May Cause X-Disease in Cattle

Your cattle will stand less chance of having hyperkeratosis (X-disease) if you keep them away from grease and oil.

That's the report of Dr. R. P. Link of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. He returned recently from a meeting at the University of Tennessee where scientists from 17 state agricultural experiment stations met with representatives from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to compare results of their research on hyperkeratosis.

Representatives from the experiment stations advise that crankcase oil, old oil drums and similar containers should be kept away from cattle, Dr. Link states. And drainage from around grease racks and machinery sheds should not be allowed to contaminate cattle lots and pastures.

Cattle may become affected with hyperkeratosis by swallowing highly chlorinated naphthalenes contained in certain lubricants or by unknown toxic materials in feeds. The disease had also been produced experimentally by feeding certain batches of processed concentrates and roofing asphalt.

First reported in the United States in New York in 1939, hyperkeratosis was recognized for the first time in Illinois in 1948. Since then it has caused severe losses in areas throughout the United States.

Dr. Link adds that scientists will continue research to learn other possible causes of hyperkeratosis. Attempts will also be made to develop methods of prevention and control.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1952

Rural Youth Fall Conference to Be September 27

Illinois Rural Youth members will meet for their annual fall conference at the University of Illinois in Urbana on September 27.

Clareta Walker, rural youth specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, estimates that more than 150 Rural Youthers from about 60 counties will attend the conference.

Major objectives of the annual conference, Miss Walker says, are to help members develop imagination in planning Rural Youth programs and help them see the value of using different methods of presenting program materials. Another popular aim of the meetings is to provide an opportunity for fun and fellowship.

Highlight of the morning session will be "Rural Youth in the Theater," a program topic to help the young people with dramatics as used in Rural Youth Programs. Dr. Clara Behringer, University of Illinois speech instructor, will preside.

Afternoon group meetings, with Rural Youthers presiding, will feature "The Clothes We Buy," with emphasis on men's clothing, and continue the morning dramatics session. Edna R. Gray, UI extension clothing specialist will be in charge of the clothing discussions.

L. H. Simerl of the agricultural economics department will tell the group how "Uncle Sam Goes Shopping Overseas."

The afternoon program will close with a coffee hour and mixer, and the evening will be devoted to dancing and more visiting.

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/26/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1952

Sheep Business Looks Good This Year

If you have legume pasture and like sheep well enough to take care of them, the sheep business looks like a good proposition for this coming year.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says the big reason sheep look good is that replacement ewes right now are priced below what the current lamb market indicates they should be.

At the present time, the best market lambs are bringing just about as much as they did last year in August and September. Replacement ewes are being bought for less.

There has been some criticism of the sheep business as being bad because the wool market has fallen to about 50 percent of the best 1951 prices, Carlisle says. However, wool makes up only a small part of the returns from an Illinois sheep flock, and the lamb returns are still high.

The two annual purebred sheep sales held in the state this summer indicate that there is considerable interest in the sheep business. At the Dixon Springs Experiment Station sale, 39 Hampshires and Suffolks averaged $104.60 compared with $107 last year. At the Urbana sale, the 1952 average for 78 head was $105 compared with $99 in 1951.

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RAJ:mi
8/26/52

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1952

Results with Rock, Superphosphate Similar

From a profit and loss standpoint, it makes little difference whether you use rock or superphosphate, according to tests made at the University of Illinois experiment field at Brownstown.

Soils men at the College of Agriculture report that test plots there have shown about the same yields for the two forms of phosphate since 1948. Returns above fertilizer costs have also been about the same.

With potash and lime, rock phosphate resulted in an average ield of 83 bushels of corn, 29 bushels of soybeans, 18 bushels of heat and 2.1 tons of hay. When superphosphate was used, the yields ere 84 bushels for corn, 27 for soybeans, 23 bushels for wheat and .1 tons for hay.

Two hundred pounds of 20 percent superphosphate was applied wice in the four-year rotation, once drilled on the wheat and once roadcast on the clover stubble. With the rock phosphate, 1,200 ounds was put on in 1940 and another 800 pounds in 1948.

On a money-return basis, the rock phosphate plots gave a et average of $57.53 cents a year above fertilizer cost. The superhosphate plots averaged $58.23 a year above fertilizer costs.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1952

Store Fuel Safely on The Farm

The fuels you use on your farm can be your servant, or they can do lots of damage. It all depends on how you handle them.

It is the gases from petroleum products that are most dangerous, according to the Illinois Rural Safety Council. A flame, a spark or even too much heat can ignite gases and vapors. In some cases explosions have occurred from gases and vapors ignited several hundred feet away from the point where the flammable liquids were being stored or handled.

Here are some precautions from the council. Heed them to help protect both yourself and your property:

Never refuel a tractor while the motor is running or is extremely hot. Check fuel lines frequently to avoid leaky connections. Never draw or handle flammable liquids in the presence of an open flame or other sources of ignition.

An underground tank with a pump similar to the equipment used n service stations provides the safest storage for large supplies of ractor fuels, gasoline or kerosene on farms. The next best method is o store gasoline supplies in a well-constructed steel tank located at east 40 feet or more from farm buildings. If a separate enclosure is sed, it should permit vapors to escape in case of a leak or spill.

When it is necessary to bring gasoline inside, use a red, abeled container of an approved safety type. Kerosene for immediate se may be kept in small safety-type containers that are labeled and hat differ in size, shape and color from gasoline containers.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1952

Good Time to Review Wood Fence Post Pointers

The recent shut-down of the steel industries may affect many farmers who plan to build or repair fences this fall, according to W. L. Meek, Illinois College of Agriculture forestry specialist.

We're likely to see fewer new steel and more wooden posts.

Meek adds that the naturally durable post is a familiar but fast disappearing sight. Hedge, black locust, red cedar and to a certain extent white oak are all resistant to decay when put into the ground. But since only the heart of these woods is resistant, it's best to use posts that are mostly heartwood.

A six-inch post with two inches of light-colored sapwood will be a four-inch post after a few year of exposure.

One of the best wooden fence posts on the market today is the pressure-treated post. Certified preservatives, such as creosote, pentachlorophenol, copper naphthenate, chromated zinc chloride and others, are applied to the different kinds of wood.

Farmers having timber on their farms can cut and treat good posts at home. Or they can cut and haul the posts to a treating plant or custom treating if there is such a plant near by.

Pentachlorophenol, copper naphthenate and creosote are recmmended for home use. As to method of treatment, Meek reports that he cold-soaking method is most practical.

For suggestions on using pentachlorophenol, see Circular 636, nd for creosoting see mimeograph F114, available at county farm adisers' offices or from Department of Forestry, College of Agriculture, rbana.

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/2/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1952

Illinois Farms Need More Phosphorus

Illinois farmers are way ahead of the nation's average when it comes to putting on phosphate fertilizers. But it's not enough, according to a soils scientist from the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

F. W. Parker, director of soil research for the Department, says that an acre of land needs about 30 pounds of phosphoric acid a year for better than average crop yields. There are 20 pounds of phosphoric acid in 100 pounds of 20 percent superphosphate. Illinois farmers are applying about 13 pounds a year compared to the national average of nine.

Other countries are way ahead. France uses an average of 15 pounds per acre. Danish farmers use 23 pounds a year; Germans use 26. The United Kingdom averages 32, and Dutch farmers use 48.

The use of phosphate fertilizer is profitable. Parker reports that the average U. S. dollar spent for phosphate fertilizer returns more than four dollars to the farmer.

Only about five to 15 percent of the actual phosphorus put on soil is ever used by plants, Parker states. A chemical action takes place that changes the phosphorus into a form plants cannot use. Thus Illinois farmers actually use more than twice as much phosphorus as the crops take, Parker said. But according to soil tests, he adds, about 16 million of the 25 million crop acres in the state need much more phosphorus.

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9/2/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1952

Examine Pasture For Poisonous Plants

If you haven't examined your pasture lately for poisonous plants, plan to do it soon.

Dr. G. T. Woods, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says whorled milkweed and white snakeroot are often a serious threat to livestock health, especially when pastures get short. If either of them is growing in your pasture, grub them out or fence them off before your cattle find them.

Until you get rid of the plants, watch animals grazing on the pasture for signs of poisoning, Dr. Woods suggests. Animals poisoned by whorled milkweed usually stagger and have a weak, rapid pulse. In fatal cases, bloating, excessive drooling and spasms often occur.

Summer poisoning in cattle from white snakeroot may be even more serious. This weed causes cattle to tremble, lose weight,breathe with difficulty, lose their appetite and become weak. In addition, milk from affected cows is usually poisonous to human beings.

And while you're looking for poisonous plants on your farm, watch for other causes of poisoning. For example, discarded paint buckets or broken auto batteries cause severe outbreaks of lead poisoning on Illinois farms each year, and carelessly discarded insect and rodent poisons often kill farm livestock.

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LEA:mi
9/2/52

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 15, 1952

AN AGRICULTURAL NEWS REPORT FROM EUROPE

Illinois Graduate Is Key Figure In U.S. Efforts To Aid German Agriculture

By Hadley Read, Extension Editor
College of Agriculture, University of Illinois
Agricultural Information Consultant for MSA in Europe

BONN, GERMANY--A former Illinois farm boy and a graduate of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture is one of the key figures in the efforts of the United States to help rebuild Germany's agriculture.

Vigorous, hard-working Norman L. Smith has the official title of Chief of the Agricultural Production and Extension Branch of the Food and Agriculture Division here in MSA headquarters in Germany. That title covers a lot of ground. And because he is responsible for supervising the spending of part of your tax dollar in your government's efforts to help farmers all over the world, you will be interested in who this fellow is and what he does.

Norm Smith has a practical, dirt-farmer's appreciation of the problems of agriculture. He grew up on a grain-livestock farm near Magnolia in Putnam county and graduated from the University of Illinois College of Agriculture in 1939 and again in 1940 with an M.S. degree. After a brief stint with the Crop Reporting Service in Springfield and a much longer stint with the U.S. Army on Guadalcanal and other spots in the war-torn Pacific, he came back to Illinois for a short stay.

From there he turned his attention to helping Michigan farmers solve their problems as extension farm management specialist on the Michigan State College staff. About that time the Russian Bear started flexing his muscles, and the vital supply route from free Germany to crucial Berlin was cut off. Smith, on his way to Europe for an agricultural assignment with the Department of the Army, was given the back-breaking task of coordinating all food shipments over the famous airlift into that starving city.

For about eight months, it was his job to direct the movement of an average of 1,300 tons of foodstuffs daily from six airfields in free Germany into Berlin's three airports.

The airlift was a historic success. The Russian grip was broken, and when the normal rail and highway routes were opened, Smith joined the Agricultural Production staff of the Food and Agriculture Division. A year ago he was made Chief of the Production and Extension Branch in the Division.

That's the background of the man, and this is the background of the position he holds:

Starting with the Marshall Plan, the U.S. effort to help European agriculture has progressed roughly through three stages. The first job was to replenish supplies of food and feed--to keep people from starving and to keep livestock from starving. Stage 2, handled by ECA, was the task of assisting the war-torn countries, including Germany, to rebuild agriculture's physical plant. Financial assistance was needed to reconstruct bombed-out fertilizer plants, tractor factories, elevators and warehouses. Farmers needed supplies of machinery, building materials and breeding livestock.

Under ECA the U.S. made dollars available to the respective countries for the purchase of food, equipment and supplies. Upon arrival these were paid for in the currency of the country receiving them, payment being made on a dollar-equivalent basis. These Deutsche marks, or francs,

or pounds--depending upon the country--were deposited in a special account and became known as "counterpart funds" to be used again by the government, with U.S. approval, for rehabilitation and strengthening of the economy of the country.

With the outbreak of war in Korea and the growing threat of Communism, U.S. assistance was shifted even more strongly to those programs and projects which would bring about the most rapid increase in agricultural production. Stage 2 shifted into stage 3, and the direction of the programs was taken over by the Mutual Security Agency (MSA).

During the past year as Chief of the Production and Extension Branch, Smith has worked closely with the German Ministry of Agriculture officials in planning and carrying out hundreds of specific projects and programs, all aimed at improving farm production in this country. By the end of the year about 180 million Deutsche marks (more than $40 million) of counterpart funds will have been allocated for improvements in agriculture. What is this money used for?

The big need is for credit. Roughly 140 million of the 180 million Deutsche marks will be used to provide the necessary credit to assist farmers in buying livestock and machinery, improving their marketing facilities and improving their facilities for storing seeds, fertilizer and other products.

Public funds from German sources will team up with the other 40 million Deutsche marks to finance other needed improvement projects in agriculture. One of the big programs is the strengthening of the German Agricultural Extension and Advisory Service designed to give farmers the latest information on better farming methods. The program is modeled after the U.S. Agricultural Extension Service, and West Germany now has or soon will have at least one full-time agricultural advisor in every county.

Closely allied with the Advisory Service is the Central Agricultural Information Service, established with U.S. help in 1950, which operates much like the Extension Editorial Office of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture. The Service provides popular bulletins and leaflets for farm families, produces agricultural motion pictures for the advisory workers and has recently established an agricultural press service for German newspapers and radio stations.

There may be differences of opinions for a long time over the rightness or wrongness of the U.S. efforts to assist the free countries of the world. But there can be no argument over the fact that men like Norm Smith are making every effort to see that the U.S. dollar set aside for foreign aid is spent as wisely and as effectively as possible.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 15, 1952

Tips for Best Use of Aluminum Sheeting

Aluminum sheeting will provide durable roofing and siding if you handle it right.

H. L. Wakeland, instructor in agricultural engineering at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says you'll have trouble with aluminum sheeting eating away if it comes in contact with lime, lye, raw cement, fertilizers or manure.

Store aluminum sheets by leaning them on end against a wall in a dry place where they'll stay clean, Wakeland suggests. Also, do not use copper lightning conductors with aluminum roofing or apply the sheets with ungalvanized steel or monel metal nails. Both of these materials react with aluminum when they are wet and cause rapid etching.

Here are some other tips on handling aluminum for best results:

Apply aluminum roofing sheets over a good roof deck with no more than 18 inches between sheathing strips. Do not put roofing sheets on roofs having a slope of less than 4 inches in each foot.

Start applying sheets at the end of the roof opposite the direction from which prevailing winds blow, and start on the lower edge of the roof. End lap the sheets at least 8 inches for any slope less than 6 inches a foot and 6 inches for slopes greater than this. Side-lap 2½ corrugations for slopes less than 6 inches a foot or more than 12 inches a foot; otherwise side-lap 1½ corrugations.

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Tips for Best Use of Aluminum Sheeting - add 1

Use 120 or more screw or ring shank aluminum roofing nails with neoprene (synthetic rubber) washers for each square of roofing.

Drive all nails through the crown of the corrugations--never through the valleys. Drive the nails until the neoprene washer is tight against the sheet, but do not overdrive them, as denting the sheet will mar its appearance and service.

Use at least five screw or ring shank nails across the end laps. The sheets should be nailed at every sheathing strip or slat at the side lap and at least once in the middle of the sheet at every strip.

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Good Pastures Help Offset High Feeder Price

If you have good pastures now, you can offset some extra cost in your feeder cattle for the 1952-53 program, according to Harry G. Russell.

Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, points out that every 50 pounds of gain put on feeder cattle this fall on pasture will reduce your investment about 3 cents a pound.

The big question facing cattle buyers now is whether the market has yet been fully discounted for all the unfavorable factors. Some of them are this summer's drouth, the possible importation of Mexican cattle and a general increase in cattle numbers.

If you believe that the cattle market will go substantially lower, it will be best to wait, Russell says. However, if you think feeder prices will go only slightly lower, it may be best to buy now for delivery as soon as possible. Then get your feeder program started with cheap gains this fall.

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RAJ:mi
9/10/52

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 1952

State Swine Sale Set For October 6

The second annual "Cream of the Crop" production-tested swine sale is scheduled for the 4-H fairgrounds at Ottawa on Monday, October 6.

Sponsored by the Illinois Swine Herd Improvement association, the state-wide sale will start at 7:30 p.m. CST. Food will be available through the courtesy of the LaSalle county Rural Youth organization.

Purebred boars and purebred, crossbred and grade gilts will be offered for sale, according to W. N. Stevenson, secretary-treasurer of the association. All of them will be cholera immune, free from Bang's disease and inspected for freedom from vesicular exanthema.

Consignees will offer 106 head of swine, 51 boars and 55 gilts. Hampshire, Poland China, Chester White, Yorkshire and Duroc purebred breeds will be represented, along with other grade and crossbred animals. Nothing but production-tested stock will be sold.

All consigned animals out of gilts must be from litters weighing at least 275 pounds at 56 days. All consigned animals out of sows must be from litters weighing at least 320 pounds at 56 days.

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RAJ:mi
9/17/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 1952

Name Seven Rural Youth Scholarship Winners

Seven new students will enter the University of Illinois College of Agriculture this week as a result of the Illinois Rural Youth Community Service Program.

They are Ellen Ann Bell, Mazon, Grundy county; Gerald Ray Miller, McClure, Pulaski-Alexander county; Richard P. Stone, Pleasant Plains, Sangamon county; J. Ivan Heaton, Murrayville, Morgan county; Georgiana Glover, McNabb, Marshall-Putman county; Marilyn Louise Mieher, Carlinville, Macoupin county; and Paul S. Wallem, Streator, LaSalle county.

These seven winners were chosen from among 13 applications sent in to the College of Agriculture from the seven counties awarded scholarships as a result of the excellence of their Rural Youth Community service activities last year. The scholarship winners were chosen by the University Scholarship Committee on the basis of high school records, evidence of leadership and financial need.

Community service is recognized as one of the three basic parts of the Illinois Rural Youth program. The other two are education and recreation. The community service scholarship award program is sponsored by the Gulf, Mobile and Ohio railroad in the 29 counties in Illinois which it serves in cooperation with the Extension Service of the College of Agriculture.

Seventeen of the 29 counties enrolled in the 1951 community service program. Of these, 12 submitted final narrative reports of their activites as required by the rules and were given certificates of participation.

The sum of $2,200 is awarded each year by the railroad to the University to make these scholarships available. Grundy and Pulaski-Alexander counties were awarded $400 scholarships, Sangamon, Morgan and Marshall-Putnam counties, $300; and Macoupin and LaSalle counties, $250.

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RAJ:mi
9/17/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 1952

Number of Eligible Illinois Voters Rises

Number of Illinois citizens of voting age has increased by 157,000, or 2.7 percent, since 1948.

This figure is from a recent estimate of the Bureau of the Census, according to C. L. Folse, asst. professor of rural sociology at the University of Illinois.

In the 1948 presidential election there were an estimated 5,810,000 persons 21 years of age and over in the state. The estimate for this November is placed at 5,967,000.

In 1948, 3,984,046 votes were cast in Illinois for presidential electors. This vote represented 68.6 percent of the eligible population of voting age. This proportion was exceeded only by Utah, where 73.3 percent of the eligible persons voted.

Age data are not available for the breakdown between farm and city people. However, it is thought that Illinois farm families vote in about the same proportions as the rest of the state's population.

The present activities of many organizations and agencies in the state to get out the vote for the coming election could easily result in Illinois occupying first place among the states in proportion of eligible citizens voting, Folse believes.

Although there has been an increase of 157,000 persons over 21 years of age, it does not mean that all of them are eligible to vote, according to the rural sociologist. Persons of voting age must meet the state laws for registration before they are eligible to vote. However, under the permanent registration laws, there is little reason why all persons of voting age should not be registered.

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RAJ:mi
9/16/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 1952

Same Treatment Not Effective for All Types of Mastitis in Cows

Treating your cow for mastitis without knowing which germ is causing the trouble is like pulling the trigger of a gun with your eyes closed--you're not sure what you'll hit.

Dr. H. S. Bryan of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says many different kinds of germs may cause mastitis in cattle. Some of them are streptococci, staphylocci, corynebacteria and pseudomonads. Even yeasts are sometimes involved in the disease.

Treating your cow with pencillin preparations will usually get rid of streptococci, the most common cause of mastitis, Dr. Bryan says. But it may not be effective against other udder infections.

For best results, have a laboratory examination made of the milk from each cow to see which germ is causing the trouble, and then your veterinarian will select the right drug to eliminate the infection. This will save the money you might throw away on expensive drugs, and the disease will be controlled in time to save the cow.

Another thing, don't overlook good sanitation and milking practices. These include washing each cow's udder with a cloth dipped in warm disinfectant before she is milked, milking most cows only three minutes, milking infected cows last and preventing injuries to teats and udders.

Dr. Bryan states, "Drugs, properly used, may get rid of mastitis, but cows often become reinfected unless you practice good herd management and sanitation.

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LEA:mi
9/17/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 1952

Correct Lifting Should Be a Habit

Practice correct lifting until it becomes a habit. That's the advice from John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council.

Each year thousands of people become the victims of sprains, strains, hernias and other injuries caused by incorrect lifting, says Matthews.

According to a report from the Rural Safety Council, the most common causes of lifting injuries are (1) lifting and lowering with the back muscles; (2) insecure grip or footing and unsafe placing of hands or feet; (3) quick, jerking, twisting or awkward movements of the body; (4) obstructed vision, unstable loads or inadequate control; (5) insufficient help or failure to use mechanical aids.

Your body is a mechanical system of levers and hinges moved by cables just like many machines. Nature intended each bone joint and muscle to have a specific purpose. When you overload or use them improperly, you invite injuries.

It is a common practice to bend at the waist when reaching down to grasp an object. Lifting in this position places a severe strain on the sensitive back and abdominal muscles. Always bend your knees and keep your back straight when you need to lift.

Examine farm lifting jobs critically. Rearrange your work to eliminate or reduce the amount of lifting. See if you can't use simple and safe mechanical aids, such as rope hoists, wooden skids, hand trucks or inexpensive conveyors, to help do the job for you.

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RAJ:mi
9/17/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 1952

Gilts Need Good Rations This Fall

The way you feed your spring gilts between now and breeding time may have an effect on next spring's pig crop.

In other words, says G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, you need sound, healthy gilts to produce sound, healthy pigs.

Here are steps Carlisle suggests for gilts which are to raise the 1953 spring pig crop:

1. Keep the gilts on legume pasture as long as you can.

2. Give them plenty of minerals either free choice or mixed in the protein supplement.

3. Feed a balanced ration. For example: (a) ground oats and protein supplement free choice or (b) corn at the rate of 6 pounds a head each day plus 1/2 to 1/3 pound of protein supplement a head each day.

4. This is a suggested protein supplement to use: 100 pounds each of meat scraps or tankage, soybean meal and alfalfa meal and 5 pounds each of salt and steamed bone meal. Or you can use a good, commercial, ready-mixed supplement.

Carlisle recommends using alfalfa meal when your pastures get short at this time of year. Alfalfa provides good insurance for valuable minerals and vitamin needs.

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RAJ:mi
9/16/52

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29, 1952

Illinois Square Dancers at Chicago Festival

Thirty-four square dance sets will represent Illinois in a 12-minute exhibition during the Third Annual International Square Dance Festival in Chicago on November 8.

E. H. Regnier, extension recreationist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, is serving as chairman of the state dance committee. Regnier reports that Illinois will be divided into five districts for purposes of rehearsing, dancing, selecting the sets and preparing for the Festival exhibition. District festivals will end by November 1.

The 34 sets to be selected at the district festivals will represent municipal recreation centers, square dance clubs and rural areas. County Rural Youth groups will sponsor the district festivals in the five areas.

Program Chairman Edward Dalhaus, director of youth activities for the Illinois Agricultural Association, reports that the Illinois delegation to the International Festival will dance two special numbers and perform a nine-set folk number.

Any square dance sets wishing to dance and help with the International Festival should contact their local county farm or home adviser.

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RAJ:mi
9/22/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29, 1952

Name Kroger, Sears Scholarship Winners

Names of six boys and girls who are winners of Kroger scholarships and four girls and 21 boys who are winners of Sears Roebuck scholarships to the University of Illinois College of Agriculture this fall were announced this week by Assistant Dean C. D. Smith.

Kroger scholarship winners include Charlotte Ann Hogan, Ringwood; Alice Ann Shepherd, Joliet; Patricia Ann Thudium, Mattoon; Wesley Ray Lackey, Melvin; Gayle Wayne Wright, White Heath; and Duane L. Orton, Newark. All scholarships are for $200.

Winners of $200 Sears scholarships are Nancy Mae Monroe, Roseville; Lorna June Hoge, Harmon; Marilyn Ann Perry, Adrian; Martha Irene Ruckman, Mansfield; Kent Morris Chidley, Palatine; Wendell D. Cleaver, Olney; John Henry Conerty, Urbana; Forrest L. Gillespie, Oregon; Frederick Charles Heyl, Manito; Roy Eugene Hobson, Greenfield; Christopher V. Kunkel, Granville; Howard Edwin Parr, New Holland; Roger Dale Quinn, Mt. Sterling; Paul Eugene Rieke, Reddick; and William Allen Stinnett, Dawson.

Winners of $100 Sears scholarships include William B. Britz, Springfield; Charles Robert Dow, Xenia; Richard Frederick Dunn, Paris; James DeElton Elmer, Clinton, Wisconsin; David Thomas Larson, Milford; Arlen Ray Speckman, Clifton; Donald Gene Thompson, Amboy; Howard Ray Walker, Williamsfield; and Edward H. Schrowang, Granville. Ronald Charles Rilott, Manteno, was awarded a $75 Sears scholarship.

A sophomore extension scholarship for $100 was awarded to Hershel Dwain Sanders, Christopher, while Wayne Franklin Ewbank, Martinsville, received the special $250 sophomore scholarship.

All of the scholarships were awarded by the University Scholarship Committee on the basis of leadership, high school scholarship and financial need.

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RAJ:mi
9/23/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29, 1952

It Pays to Recognize Heifers' Adjustment Needs

Many first-calf heifers will be going into the milking string this fall and winter, and the dairyman who neglects careful management of them at this time may be headed for trouble.

C. S. Rhode, extension dairy specialist in the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that in most cases confinement to stalls or stanchions, barn feeding and close contact with the dairymen are strange experiences to the heifers. Those not managed with care may develop nervousness, will not let down their milk as they should, and may have badly swollen hocks and bruises on other parts of the body.

Cash suggests putting new heifers with the milking herd about a month before they are due to freshen. This will help to accustom them to new management practices. If carefully handled, they will get used to the stanchions, milking parlors or stalls without a fuss.

It's also a good idea to brush heifers occasionally and lightly massage their udders and teats. Then when you put the milker on them, they're more likely to take the whole thing calmly and respond to the milking process.

Plenty of bedding is needed to avoid bruised hocks and udder trouble. When first put into a stanchion, heifers are awkward about lying down and getting up.

To protect the udders, feed a light, bulky fitting ration with plenty of good hay from the time heifers are put into the milking herd until two or three weeks after they freshen. Milking them before they freshen is recommended if their udders are badly swollen.

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9/23/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29, 1952

National Fire Prevention Week October 5-11

The week beginning October 5 has been designated as Fire Prevention Week by a proclamation of President Harry S. Truman.

"Destructive fires continue to take an enormous toll of life and property despite the compelling need for the conservation of our human and natural resources in order to strengthen the defense of the Nation," the President declared.

"A more concerted and widespread effort to prevent such fires must be made during the coming year if the lives of approximately 11,000 of our citizens are to be spared, and the suffering and disability of many thousands more prevented.

"I urge that every man, woman and child in this great country contribute to the nation-wide effort to strengthen the United States by accepting a personal responsibility in the never-ending campaign to save life and property by preventing destructive fires."

Records of the National Fire Prevention association show that farm fires cause a loss of over $122,000,000 each year. Farm fires also cause the deaths of more than 3,500 farm people each year, and more than 29 percent of all deaths caused by fire are in rural areas.

Elimination of just four of the most common hazards on farms would cut farm fire loss in half, says the association. These four are unsafe stove and furnace installations, inadequate lightning protection, sparks on combustible roofs and unsafe wiring.

Experience with farm fires has shown that many such fires result in total loss. Only about 50 percent of the loss is covered by insurance, the other 50 percent is a direct loss to the farmer. The cost of insurance protection can be greatly reduced if all farmers will cooperate to eliminate farm fire hazards.

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RAJ:mi
9/23/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29, 1952

Treat Your Fence Posts At Home

Treat your fence posts at home if you have nondurable, home-grown posts and a pressure treatment plant isn't handy.

Wayne L. Meek, wood use specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says almost any kind of nondurable wood that is grown in this state can be treated at home. Some woods take treatment better and last longer than others, but all will be helped by treatment. Treating also will help to cut long-time fencing costs and labor.

Brushing preservative on is not effective because only the outside surface is covered and the material soon wears off. Cold soaking works better and does not require expensive equipment. Use pentachlorophenol, copper naphthenate or creosote as the preservative.

To give best service, posts should be seasoned at least two months during the summer before they are treated. Posts should be cut and peeled in the spring. Peeling the bark clean permits good penetration by the preservative.

Late summer or fall is the best time to treat summer-seasoned posts, Meek says. Any oil-tight container big enough to use will do. Both cold soaking vertically with butts down or soaking with posts lying flat will give good results. Soak posts in the preservative for at least 48 hours. You will be able to paint posts treated with penta or copper naphthenate--in about one month--after the oil carrier has evaporated.

For more information on treating posts with penta or creosote, ask your county farm adviser for Circular 636 and Mimeograph F114, or write to the College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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RAJ:mi
9/23/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29, 1952

Air-Sac Disease Becomes Threat to Poultry Industry

Air-sac disease, a new poultry ailment that is causing severe losses to broiler growers in the eastern part of the country, now appears to be moving into the Middle West. So far it hasn't caused serious trouble in Illinois.

Dr. L. E. Hanson, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says air-sac disease first became a serious problem in the East in 1950. Now it threatens to become as serious a menace to the poultry industry as Newcastle disease was four or five years ago.

Although little is known about air-sac disease, the same sanitation practices that help to prevent the spread of other ailments will also work to prevent it. These practices include strict flock isolation, keeping visitors away from the flock and keeping pullets and adult chickens separated.

"Broiler raisers should use extreme caution at time of marketing to prevent the disease from being spread by crates, trucks and drivers and helpers," Dr. Hanson warns.

Symptoms of the disease include watery eyes, nasal discharge and gasping. Death losses may be high, but broiler raisers report that their greatest losses come from reduced weight gains and poorer finished carcasses.

Experiment stations in five eastern states are teaming with the Bureau of Animal Industry of the USDA to conduct research on air-sac disease. The first work is being done where losses have been the heaviest.

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LEA:mi
9/23/52

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 6, 1952

Wormy Feeder Lambs Waste Grain

Don't waste a lot of expensive grain by feeding it to worms in your feeder lambs this fall.

That's the advice of Dr. N. D. Levine of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. He points out that worms may not only make lambs unthrifty by robbing them of their food, but they may also rob them of their blood, causing them to die of anemia.

"One Illinois farmer lost 60 of his 600 feeder lambs last winter because of nodular and stomach worms," Dr. Levine states. Many of the other lambs were unthrifty.

Lambs on the western ranges can be infested with a few worms without being harmed much. But as soon as they are concentrated in a small feedlot, the ground becomes contaminated quickly and the lambs become heavily infested with worms.

Treating your lambs with phenothiazine will control both the nodular and the stomach worms, Dr. Levine says. Treat each lamb separately with a capsule or drench so that it will get the right amount. Or you can mix the drug with the feed, making sure that each lamb has plenty of trough space. Small or weak lambs should be fed separately.

After treating your lambs, you can help to prevent further trouble by keeping phenothiazine before them at all times. Mix one pound of the drug with every 10 pounds of salt, and keep the mixture in a covered trough to protect it from the weather.

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LEA:mi
9/30/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 6, 1952

Sheep Producers Day at Urbana, October 29

Sheep feeding and management problems will be the topics for discussion at the Illinois Sheep Production day at the Illinois College of Agriculture in Urbana on Wednesday, October 29.

U. S. Garrigus, head of the sheep division at the college, reports that animals and facilities at the sheep farm will be open for inspection by visitors starting at 9 a.m.

Members of the sheep staff of the college will give results of some of the latest experiments starting at 10:30 a.m. in the stock pavilion. Some of the topics they will discuss include feeding sulphur to sheep, aureomycin in a creep ration and systems of feeding lambs.

Visitors will also hear about reproduction problems in sheep, arsenic compounds in a lamb fattening ration, wintering ewe lambs on corn silage and a summary of the 1952 Illinois sheep production project.

Carl Dunbar, Bushnell sheep grower, will open the afternoon session at 12:50 p.m. by telling how profitable a farm flock in Illinois can be. Dale Rouse, head of the Illinois Wool Marketing association will discuss the wool situation; and Vernon Bigler, National Livestock and Meat Board, Chicago, will show how to cut up a lamb for the table.

W. G. Kammlade, associate director of the Illinois Extension Service, will wind up the program which is scheduled to close at 2:45 p.m.

All Illinois sheep growers are invited to attend the sessions. Lunch will be available at noon in the stock pavilion.

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RAJ:mi
10/1/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 6, 1952

Operating Corn Picker Right Takes Skill

Operating a corn picker is no job for an amateur.

John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, says if you haven't had much experience in operating farm machinery, not to start with a corn picker. It is the most dangerous of all farm machines to operate.

With more than half a million mechanical corn pickers about to go into action for this year's corn harvest in the United States, another big accident record will be piled up unless operators are extra careful, Matthews says.

Most corn picker accidents happen when the operator leaves the tractor seat when the picker is running. The golden rule for picker safety is: NEVER TRY TO CLEAN, OIL OR ADJUST YOUR CORN PICKER WHEN IT IS RUNNING.

Have your picker in good condition, and adjust it properly before you start to pick corn. A well-adjusted picker in good condition, operated at slow speed, will help prevent clogging. Less clogging means less need to get off the seat to clean the rollers.

Study the instruction manual for your picker until you are completely familiar with all the adjustments needed for good operation. Keep all safety shields and guards in the right places all the time. Do not wear loose or torn clothing when the pick corn. Extra-thumb gloves are especially dangerous when you are working around machinery.

For further information on how to run your corn picker safely ask your county farm adviser for a copy of Circular 697, "Corn Picker Operation to Save Corn and Hands," or write directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana.

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RAJ:mi
10/1/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 6, 1952

Study Oak Wilt Disease at Sinnissippi Forest

Modern forestry science has been aiming its largest guns on oak wilt disease which threatens one of Illinois' finest species of trees.

Foresters are particularly concerned about oak wilt in Illinois because more than half of the total forest stand in this state is oak, according to J. N. Spaeth, head of the forestry department at the University of Illinois.

Illinois oaks total 5,832 million board feet of merchantable timber, or 56.4 percent of all trees.

At present oak wilt disease is found mostly in northern Illinois, Spaeth says, although it may become serious all over the state unless means are found to control it.

One of the most concentrated oak areas in the state is the Sinnissippi forest near Oregon in the Rock River valley. Here in 1,600 acres of native timber bearing a stand of 7 million board feet of timber, 90 percent is oak trees. The forest has been mapped and studied so thoroughly that it offers good opportunity to study oak wilt.

In the past two years the location of every tree showing oak wilt symptoms has been mapped. More than 100,000 board feet of merchantable timber has been found to be killed, and half of those trees showed the disease for the first time in the summer of 1951. Fewer trees with the disease were found in 1952, but no one knows why or what may happen next year.

Red oaks are more susceptible to the disease than white oaks, and wilt spreads faster in red oaks, Spaeth says. Tests are now under way at Sinnissippi to control the spread of oak wilt through the roots of adjoining trees. Most of the 100,000 board feet of timber killed so far has been harvested and sold. This harvest may also have affected spread of the disease. Results of further studies will be released as soon as they are ready.

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RAJ:mi
10/1/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 6, 1952

Why Beef Cattle Prices Will Decline

There may be trouble ahead for the cattleman who takes prices and profits for granted.

In a recent outlook statement, L. H. Simerl, agricultural economist in the Illinois College of Agriculture, said that the cattle business is at a major turning point. Around the corner are more beef for consumers, lower prices for cattle and lower profits for cattlemen.

Beef cattle prices this fall are already about 10 percent lower than they were a year ago.

Simerl explained some of the reasons for the changing picture in this way:

The beef cattle business runs in cycles. Farmers tend to build up herds and total cattle numbers for seven or eight years and then sell off for about the same length of time. Cattle numbers have risen and then fallen five times in the past 70 years.

During the build-up years, sale of slaughter cattle goes down, beef supplies are small and prices of beef and beef cattle are high in comparison with other things.

We've been in this build-up stage now for four years. Total U. S. cattle numbers may reach 93 million head by January 1 compared with about 77 million head in 1948. Cattle numbers will probably increase for another three or four years.

Marketings will increase before the peak of the cycle is reached. Marketings of cattle and calves usually increase the third, fourth or fifth year after numbers turn upward.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 6, 1952

Why Beef Cattle Prices - Add 1

In 1951 only 26 million head of cattle and calves were sold for slaughter. This figure may jump to 32 million in 1953. If feed supplies hold out and farmers continue to build up total cattle numbers, there could be 100 million head on hand in two or three years. Normal slaughter from such a total would be 39 million head, or 50 percent more than last year.

By comparison our population is expected to increase only 4 or 5 percent in three years. The whole picture therefore adds up to larger beef supplies and lower prices and producer profits.

The supply of beef and veal in the U. S. last year totaled only 53 pounds per person. In three or four years it may be 75 to 85 pounds.

What will that do to prices? In 1947, the last time we had 80 pounds of beef and veal, prices of choice slaughter steers averaged about the same as prices of hogs.

Such times are coming again, Simerl believes. When prices of slaughter cattle slide, prices of feeder calves and steers drop further. Profits on beef cow herds then will also shrink, at least as much as those from feeding cattle.

This changing situation will require more careful attention to fitting cattle-feeding programs to available farm feed supplies and to normal seasonal market price swings.

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OFG:mi
10/1/52

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 13, 1952

Need Supplement Feed in Hogging-Off Corn

Hogs will do better when you turn them in to the corn field if you feed them some supplement in addition to the corn.

Tests at agricultural experiment stations in several states have shown that just turning your hogs in to the corn isn't enough, according to G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

Results of 13 experiments in corn-belt states all show that pigs gained another half-pound a day when they were fed protein supplement in a cornfield. The pigs also produced 4.5 pounds more pork for each bushel of corn they ate than when no supplement was fed.

Turn that around, Carlisle says, and you can see that each pound of protein supplement, in addition to producing more rapid gains, saved 6.4 pounds of corn.

These are old figures, but they are worth remembering at this time of year when hogs are going into many cornfields.

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RAJ:mi
10/7/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 13, 1952

Mulching Protects Evergreens From Winter-Drying

One of the best ways to prevent your windbreak or ornamental evergreen plantings from winter-drying is to mulch around the base of the trees.

That's the advice of G. R. Cunningham, extension farm forester at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

Cunningham says a good mulch will prevent deep freezing of the soil moisture around your trees. This is especially important for evergreens because they keep their foliage all year round and lose moisture from their needles in cold, drying winter winds.

If the soil moisture around evergreens is frozen so that the tree can't use it to replace the moisture lost through the foliage, the needles will die. If enough needles are lost, the whole tree will die, the forester points out.

Another advantage of mulch the year round for your evergreen windbreak is that it acts as a moisture barrier for the soil during dry spells and keeps the ground from drying out. Mulch also acts as a sponge to absorb rain and snow and prevent erosion, and it keeps down weeds and grass that compete for soil moisture.

First choice of a mulch would be composted manure. Composted manure is manure that has been mixed with straw, wood chips, bedding materials, leaves or grass clippings. Cunningham warns that manure compost used for mulch should be at least two months old. Used alone, manure is likely to cause a severe "burning" of the roots.

Other good mulches are old straw or hay, peat moss, ground cobs and wood chips.

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RAJ:mi
10/8/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 13, 1952

Farm Truck Operators Must Drive Safely

Every farm truck driver should learn the rules of the road and practice them until they become habits.

J. W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council, says the two and one-fourth million farmers who operate trucks in the United States have the responsibility for safe driving.

Matthews believes that one of the best ways to cut down on the heavy toll of farm truck traffic accidents is to have more trucks in safe operating condition. Lights, brakes, steering gear or other safety devices may be defective without your knowing it.

Illinois law requires that you have your farm truck tested before November 1 and May 1 every year. Have a reliable mechanic check your truck periodically between the required safety checks.

The Illinois Rural Safety Council also lists these rules for safe farm truck driving: Be alert and courteous when you are on the highway. Don't drive too fast, and don't cultivate the bad habit of driving on the wrong side of the road when no other vehicles are in sight. Always be on the lookout for people walking on the road and never drive when you are sleepy or under the influence of alcohol.

Come to a full stop when you come onto the highway and at regular stop signs. Do not proceed until you have plenty of room and time to do so. Be especially careful at railroad crossings, and pay attention to all warning signs. Know the meaning of all standard highway signs and markings, and obey them.

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RAJ:mi
10/8/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 13, 1952

Mastitis is Still Most Expensive Dairy Cattle Disease

Mastitis costs Illinois dairymen more than any other disease. And no other disease contributes more to the high turnover of cows in the milking line.

That's the statement of Dr. G. T. Woods of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. He says that most dairy herds in Illinois have some mastitis.

A cow in a Hancock county dairy herd has lost the use of one quarter of her udder each time she has had a calf for the past three years.

"We'll have to market her soon," the owner said recently. "She won't even be able to produce enough milk for her next calf at the rate she's going."

Dr. Woods explains that mastitis in most cows isn't this bad. But it can reduce milk production in a herd by 10 to 20 percent without the owner's realizing that his cows are infected.

It's important to practice good management in fighting mastitis in your herd. That isn't hard to do if you take one step at a time. A good first step is to correct your milking practices.

Early diagnosis is also necessary. This allows segregation and treatment to be started before the disease becomes serious. Milk samples from all the cows should be taken under a veterinarian's supervision and examined by him or by a diagnostic laboratory.

Treatment without good milking and herd management practices is a weak step in mastitis control, Dr. Woods says. Infected cows can be treated with sulfa drugs or penicillin preparations, but such treatment does not prevent flareups, especially in poorly managed herds.

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0/8/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 13, 1952

Second UI Winter Short Course Starts December 1

Illinois' alert farmers will be able to take advantage of some of their College of Agriculture's best classroom offerings in concentrated doses again this winter at the University of Illinois.

C. D. Smith, assistant dean in charge of resident teaching at the College of Agriculture, reports that the 1952-53 Winter Short Course program will offer six weeks of course work. Dates of the term, including a two week Christmas vacation, are December 1 through January 24.

Marshall Scott, short courses supervisor, reports that several new courses have been added to the program, and he looks for a substantial increase in enrollment this year. Last year's graduating class of 78 included 75 men and 3 girls, with ages ranging from 17 to 55.

The Winter Short Course program in agriculture last year was the first to be offered at the University.

For a copy of the 1952 short course announcement folder, which includes registration forms, write to Marshall Scott, Short Course Supervisor, 104 Mumford Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana.

Local vocational agriculture teachers or farm advisers can help you with questions about the courses, costs to expect, available scholarships and other information about the program for the coming term.

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0/7/52

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 20, 1952

Hog Cholera Strikes Unvaccinated Swine

It doesn't pay to take a chance on hog cholera.

That's what several Illinois farmers learned recently. A Rock Island swine raiser lost 17 hogs when hog cholera struck. A McDonough county farmer lost 16 market-weight hogs in 14 days. In Champaign county a farmer lost 8 market-weight hogs and 5 sows.

Dr. G. T. Woods, extension veterinarian of the University of Illinois, says recent losses make it apparent that some swine raisers apparently think hog cholera is no longer a danger and they don't need to vaccinate.

"But it takes only a few dead hogs to make you realize that hog cholera can quickly take the profit out of swine production," Dr. Woods states.

For protection, have your pigs vaccinated against hog cholera at about weaning time--the exact age will depend on the method you use. Your veterinarian can help you decide which type of several kinds of vaccines now available fits your herd best.

Dr. Woods also suggests that, if your hogs are still several weeks away from market and there is hog cholera in your neighborhood, you may be ahead to have them vaccinated. Hogs that die from cholera aren't the ones that put money in the bank.

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LEA:mi
10/14/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 20, 1952

Surface, Tile Drainage Both Help Yields

Don't sell your need for surface drainage short even if you have fairly level land and it is well-drained with tile.

Remember that the best tile line system will only take up to one-half inch of rainfall in 24 hours running full, warns Ralph C. Hay, farm drainage engineer at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

That means you have a need for good surface drainage when the occasional, but certain, heavy rain storms hit your farm, Hay explains. If you depend on tile drainage alone to take care of heavy rainfall, you probably find your fields under water with subsequent delay in field operations and crop loss.

Hay says both types of drainage are needed where they will work and are economical to use, even on level land.

As a matter of fact, too often farmers who prefer tile drainage put in lines on soil that isn't suited for tile and where surface ditches or waterways would be much less costly and more effective. This is especially true in plastic till soils or other slowly permeable soils in which the water cannot soak down into the tile fast enough to prevent damage and delay.

Surface drainage ditches are designed to remove excess surface water. On the other hand, tile drainage systems are used to draw down water within the soil to aid in root development and easier farming of the land.

For help in solving your drainage problems, see your county farm adviser, the soil conservation district director or consult a professional engineer.

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10/14/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 20, 1952

Buy Feeder Cattle to Suit Your Needs

How much feed you have or plan to buy and when you plan to market should largely determine the kind of feeder cattle you buy:

For instance, calves will need silage or good hay for roughage, says H. G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture. They will also need good pasture for next year if you are planning to graze them, and grain to finish them for market.

If you have a large supply of good roughage and plenty of pasture for next year, Russell says, you may want to buy steer calves. You can graze them next spring after wintering them well.

On the other hand, you will not want to graze heifer calves except for a short time this fall after they arrive on the farm. Choice quality heifer calves should be fat and ready to market in late spring or early summer. That means you'll have to start them on feed any time from November to January.

If you buy common or medium cattle this fall, head them for a late winter or spring market. That's when they bring the highest prices.

Good to choice quality steers should be fat and ready for market in late summer and fall, when they normally sell to best advantage. Yearling steers start with more weight and growth than steer calves of the same quality and are usually ready for market earlier.

If you plan to pasture steers next summer without grain, Russell suggests that you also plan for a grain-feeding period next fall to finish the cattle for their grade.

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10/15/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 20, 1952

To Hear Lamb Feed Results at Sheep Day

More than 300 lambs have been on a special test involving three different systems of feeding at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station.

Results of these three systems will be one of the featured reports on the program at Illinois Sheep Production Day at the University of Illinois, Urbana, on October 29.

U. S. Garrigus, head of the sheep division at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says the basic feeding system used for part of these lambs was the conventional hand-feeding system. The other two systems being tested are self-feeding a mixed ration and self-feeding all the ingredients of the first two systems but feeding them free-choice in different feed bins.

Results so far have shown up some interesting facts, Garrigus says. The lambs were started on the test in early August. The experiment will end just before Sheep Production Day.

Another lamb-feeding experiment that will be reported on the morning program in the livestock pavilion at the Urbana campus will be wintering ewe lambs on corn silage. Sheep researchers at the college have found that ewe lambs can be wintered through and will gain 1/5 pound a day on an all-roughage ration. They are trying out different amounts and sources of protein supplement to go with the corn silage.

Visitors will also hear about feeding sulphur to sheep, aureomycin in a creep ration, reproduction problems, arsenic compounds in a lamb fattening ration and a summary of the 1952 Illinois sheep production project.

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10/15/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 20, 1952

National 4-H Achievement Day November 8

National 4-H Achievement Week this year has been condensed into one day, Saturday, November 8.

Miss Anna Searl and E. I. Pilchard, state leaders of home economics and agricultural 4-H Clubs respectively, report that the change was made because of the confusion of having two national recognition weeks. The other week is National 4-H Week, usually held in March each year.

National 4-H Achievement Day in Illinois this year, as always, will be a day to recognize the achievements of the 57,000 Illinois 4-H Club members for 1952, Miss Searl and Pilchard point out.

Achievement Day not only recognizes the good work that 4-H'ers have done in their project work and other activities. It also recognizes what parents have done to help their sons and daughters become better members, and what local volunteer club leaders have done to organize clubs and carry on their work.

November 8 is the time to emphasize the 4-H theme for 1952, "Serving as Loyal Citizens Through 4-H," state club leaders say. At this time local clubs will have a chance to give special emphasis to their community betterment activities.

Other recognition of the work of 4-H Clubs will come through window displays, county achievement day programs, special radio programs, leader recognition dinners and special newspaper articles and feature pictures.

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10/15/52

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 27, 1952

Weed Burner Is Little Use Against Disease Germs

A weed burner is fine for burning weeds around the farm, but don't expect it to be effective against disease germs.

Dr. J. O. Alberts, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, says some poultrymen still use "flame guns" to disinfect brooder and laying houses. But they're just wasting their time and money.

"Heat from weed burners simply is not efficient as a means of disinfection," Dr. Alberts says. "To make it effective, you would have to char the wood, and then there would be great danger of burning down the building."

To get rid of disease germs, remove all of the litter from the brooder or laying house. Then scrub the floor and the feeding and watering equipment, using one pound of lye to 15 gallons of water. Wait until the floor is dry before you put litter in the house.

Or you can use a steam cleaner to destroy the disease germs, Dr. Alberts adds. But, either way, be sure to remove all of the litter. Neither lye water nor steam can destroy germs that are covered by litter or droppings.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 27, 1952

Compare Pasture Mixtures for Beef Cattle November 7

A long-time comparison of bluegrass and bromegrass pastures for beef cattle, begun on the University south farm at Urbana, in 1946, will end this year.

R. R. Snapp, head of the beef cattle division at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, says results of the tests will be given at the annual Cattle Feeders' Day program at Urbana on November 7. This is a change from the date of October 31 originally announced.

A new factor brought into the grazing project this year was a study of the effect of light and heavy stocking on total cattle gains for each acre, Snapp reports. Also measured were the effects of light and heavy stocking on total pasture days obtained for the entire season. These results will be released during the afternoon session at Cattle Feeders' Day.

Although the hot, dry weather during the past summer did not produce a good growth of grass, gains from these pastures will compare favorably with those in past years, when better weather brought more grass and when pastures carried a higher percentage of legumes.

Originally there were four fields in this project, but the need for land to use in other experimental work reduced the number to two a year ago, Snapp says. Ladino and other white clovers made up a large proportion of the available forage during the first few years. But these legumes have gradually died out until only a trace of them is left.

Other tests to be reported on November 7 include protein supplements for wintering beef calves, the value of high-protein corn for fattening cattle, feeding low-grade steers to different degrees of finish, and pasture results of 1952.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 27, 1952

Name Winners 1952 Sheep Production Contest

Names of first-place winners in the four divisions of the 1952 Illinois Sheep Production contest have been announced by the Extension Service of the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

Winners are: Carl Sinn, Armington, Tazewell county, first in the division of flocks from one to nine head; Glenn Voorhees, Loda, Ford county, first in flocks of 10-29 head; Meldon Grube, Elizabeth, Jo Daviess county, first in flocks of 30-74 head; and Keith McMillan, Prairie City, McDonough county, first in flocks of 75 head and over.

Cash awards are being given to the top seven winners in each division. Donors of the prize money were the St. Louis Livestock Exchange and the Chicago Union Stockyards company. Records were collected and judging was done by livestock extension specialists at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture.

Flocks in the contest were rated by points based on the pounds of wool and pounds of lamb produced by each ewe in the flock. One point was allowed for each pound of lamb produced and three points for each pound of wool.

Average score in this year's contest was 115, eight points higher than last year's average score. The total score was made up of an average of 88 pounds of lamb produced for each ewe and 9 pounds of wool, compared with 82 pounds of lamb and 8.3 pounds of wool produced by each ewe last year.

In comparison, scores of the winners were: Sinn, 216 points; Voorhees, 239 points; Grube, 174 points; and McMillan, 164 points.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 27, 1952

Large Lard Supply Affects Fall Hog Prices

The poor lard situation has pushed fall hog prices even lower than usual this year, believes W. J. Wills.

Wills, livestock marketing specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that lard prices have been more unfavorable than usual this fall. Lard was recently 8½ cents a pound lower than last year's figure. Hams and loins have advanced a little in price over last year but most other wholesale cuts are down.

Average lard yield from each hog is about 35 pounds, Wills says. But it takes more than 70 pounds of live hog to produce that much lard. Lard prices have been about 10 cents a pound this fall, or about $3.50 a hog. Average weight for market hogs is about 235 pounds. When nearly 30 percent of the live animal sells for 10 cents a pound, the burden this places on the rest of the animal causes a weakening in price.

With more than 105 million pounds of lard in storage on September 30 all over the country, there is nearly four times as much lard on hand as there was a year ago, Wills says. This supply will continue to burden the market for at least another two months, he believes.

One reason for the extra-large supplies of lard this year is the decline in our export sales. Apparently many of our foreign customers are trying to save their dollar balances by reducing their buying from the United States. Vegetable shortenings have captured a large part of the domestic lard market.

Finding new uses and markets for lard, either foreign or domestic, is one way to improve the situation, Wills believes. Another thing farmers can do is top out their hogs at 240 pounds or less and strive to produce leaner meat-type hogs. It takes less corn to produce 100 pounds of lean pork than to produce 100 pounds of fat pork, which also contains more lard. Packers may also pay a price differential for the more valuable hogs that produce less lard.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 27, 1952

Erosion Problems Help Fix Farm Rotations

One of the biggest factors to help you determine what rotation to follow on your farm is whether or not you have an erosion problem.

W. N. Thompson and E. H. Tyner, University of Illinois College of Agriculture, say that if erosion is a problem, you should grow enough grasses and legumes and follow other erosion control practices to control it.

On the other hand, if you do not have a serious erosion problem, you can select high-profit crops and follow a balanced fertility program that will get high yields throughout your rotation, Thompson and Tyner say.

Every farmer seeks high earnings from his farming operation, these two men point out. Therefore he should choose a land-use program that will bring high earnings and yet maintain soil fertility and soil physical resources.

On some farms erosion control requires a high percentage of grass and legume crops to maintain the soil. This means less acres of high cash-income crops like corn and soybeans. Farmers on such land almost have to efficiently produce livestock to get highest earnings.

However, erosion is only a minor problem on millions of acres of Illinois soil. Farmers on this land can be grain farmers or livestock farmers as they choose. Strictly grain farmers have a wide choice of rotations to maintain soil fertility.

Experiments at the Urbana Experiment Station show that, to tell how profitable your rotation is, it is important to look at crop value for each acre during the entire rotation instead of just the first-year corn yield. On the level, productive soil at Urbana, a catch-crop rotation was more profitable than a standover legume rotation with corn at a higher yield level.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF OCTOBER 27, 1952

Brannan Lauds 4-H'ers on Achievement Day

National agricultural leaders join with state and county people to pay tribute to the accomplishments of the nation's more than 2 million 4-H Club members on National 4-H Achievement Day, Saturday, November 8.

A special tribute to the 4-H'ers comes from Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan. His message to the rural young leaders says:

> "Congratulations as you observe National 4-H Achievement Day, November 8. You, your parents, your local leaders and your communities can take pride in your 1952 accomplishments which are to be recognized on that day.
>
> "We in the Department of Agriculture know that you have invested hard work, continued effort, and much study in your 4-H projects and other 4-H activities. We are very proud of you who could and did complete your projects. We recognize that disappointments and disasters beyond your control, such as drought and flood, have hindered some of you this year. We are equally proud of you who tried so hard and gallantly in the face of these disappointments. In trying, you have used and improved your Head, Heart, Hands, and Health in the best 4-H tradition.
>
> "Your theme for the year, 'Serving as loyal citizens through 4-H,' is a new reminder of the fine training for citizenship which your program provides and the contribution it makes to well-informed, willing, and capable leadership for our country's future.
>
> "May the observance of National 4-H Achievement Day this year bring you new inspiration for the important work before you."

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Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3, 1952

Plant Shrubs for Winter Color

You don't have to stare out your windows at bare ground and bare branches all winter, says H. R. Kemmerer, extension farm landscape specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Many varieties of shrubs in addition to the evergreens will provide spots of color in your yard or farmstead this winter while your other plants are gone.

Almost everyone is familiar with the narrow-leaved evergreens that hold their foliage all year 'round. Some of the more popular ones are blue spruce, white fir, juniper and yew.

But there are also broad-leaved evergreens, the specialist says, that do not shed their leaves in winter. Such shrubs include scarlet firethorn and Oregon hollygrape for northern Illinois and wintercreeper euonymus for the entire state.

Still other types of shrubs lose their leaves in winter but provide color in their bark. Some varieties of dogwood have bark with shades of red, yellow and bright green. Virginia rose and greenstem forsythia, with their green twigs, add color to a shrubbery border.

Winged and dwarf-winged euonymus have an attractive winged bark that blends well with evergreens. American witchhazel's yellow blooms add color to late fall.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3, 1952

Control Silverfish With DDT Dust or Spray

Spraying or painting infested places with a 2 percent solution of DDT will help to control silverfish this winter.

G. C. Decker, entomologist in the Illinois Natural History Survey, suggests that the best places to put the DDT are behind radiators, along the edges of the walls and in other places where you find the insects.

Spray or paint around pipes or other damp spots in the kitchen, bathroom or basement, in closets, under the rafters, among boxes and magazines stored in the basement and around the heating unit. The treatment is also effective under the shelving paper of your cupboards or in your bureau drawers if you find the insects there chewing on your best nylons.

Actually, silverfish are only one of the different species of bristle-tail insects, Decker says. Three other types that look much like the silverfish are commonly found indoors in Illinois. They are the firebrat, the silver firebrat and the four-striped firebrat.

Main difference between them is that the silverfish prefer damp places, while the firebrats prefer warm, dry places. You'll usually find silverfish scurrying around your bathroom, kitchen or basement, while the similar insects in your bedroom, closets or attic are generally firebrats.

All four of these insects feed on a wide variety of materials, including flour, paste, dust, glue, sizing in books, wallpaper and fabrics and starch in clothing. They cut the fibers and damage the material when they feed on the starch and sizing in fabrics.

You can control all of these pests with the same DDT treatment, the entomologist says.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3, 1952

Cannibalism Is Costly in Farm Flocks

Your hen flock will make more profits for you if they eat the mash and grain you provide rather than pick at each other.

S. F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says cannibalism results in fewer eggs and many times in the death of hens. Both results mean less income for you.

Most cases of cannibalism in farm flocks result from discomfort or dissatisfaction or both, Ridlen says. Some of the direct causes are overcrowding, idleness, blowouts, inadequate drinking and eating space, too close confinement, too few nests, the wrong kind of nests, floor laying and continuation of the picking habit from the growing period.

Tests show that cannibalism may in small part be due to underfeeding or to breeding background, according to the specialist. Since most of the causes are due to environment, best opportunity for control of the habit comes through good management.

Here are some things you can do to prevent birds from picking each other: Give them plenty of floor space, keep them busy by feeding alfalfa hay or some other similar feed, and remove those with blowouts immediately. Provide enough watering and eating space to keep the birds from having to wait in line, and give them plenty of fresh air with good ventilation.

Also, provide enough nests and darken them, Ridlen says. Adjust perches on nests and feed hoppers high enough to keep birds on the floor from picking the vents of birds on the perches. Install dropping pits. Do not overheat or overcrowd baby chicks. Debeaking can be a cure, but it needs to be done right.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3, 1952

Handle Guns Carefully When You Hunt

Record-breaking numbers of hunters in the field this fall will make safe handling of guns more important than ever before.

Safe hunting depends on common sense, says Melvin Henderson, president of the Illinois Rural Safety Council. It also depends on courtesy and the constant vigilance of everyone who takes part in this popular fall sport.

Henderson points out that hunting accidents can be reduced if hunters will avoid the most common causes. One of the most dangerous practices today is using modern loads in old, Damascus-barrel shotguns.

Other common causes are failure to keep the safety on until ready to fire, failure to guard against heavy twigs or branches pulling on the trigger, and crossing fences or slippery rocks with a loaded gun. Some hunters are shot every year because they failed to wear bright colored, distinctive clothing.

Treat your gun as if it were loaded even when you feel sure that it is empty, suggests the Rural Safety Council. Keep your gun empty and with the action open if possible except when you are ready to shoot. Always keep the muzzle pointed away from anything you would not want to shoot.

True sportsmen never point an empty gun at another person or wrestle or engage in horseplay with anyone holding a gun. Neither do they mix alcohol and hunting.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3, 1952

Vary Winter Calf Rations to Fit Needs

If you plan to pasture your steer calves for a time next spring and summer without grain, you can feed them a wintering ration until pasture season.

H. G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, suggests, however, that you bring your steers to a full feed of grain before the pasture is ready if you plan to feed them on pasture.

Use four to six weeks to get the cattle on full feed, Russell says. A self-feeder on pasture will save you labor next spring and summer if you plan to feed grain to cattle on pasture.

Vary the wintering rations for your steer calves to fit the feeds you have available and to fit what you plan to do with the steers next spring and summer.

Here are three good rations which will give daily gains of 1 1/4 to 1 1/3 pounds:

1. 22-25 pounds of corn silage, one pound of protein supplement and 2-3 pounds of good legume hay.

2. 20 pounds of legume-grass silage and 3-4 pounds of shelled corn or other grain equivalent.

3. 4 pounds of shelled corn or equivalent and good legume hay, free choice.

Feed minerals and salt free choice in addition to each of these three wintering rations.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3, 1952

Leptospirosis Found in Illinois Sheep, Swine

Leptospirosis, mainly a threat to cattle, has now been found in Illinois sheep and swine.

That's the report of Dr. P. B. Barto of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. He says that other states have reported the disease in swine, but this may be the first time that it has appeared in sheep in the United States.

It's possible that sheep and hogs may contract the disease from infected cattle or contaminated cattle lots, Dr. Barto says.

When it strikes, leptospirosis may kill both young and adult animals. In breeding stock the disease causes a high rate of abortions. Livestock with the disease may be sick for several days and then either die or recover.

Symptoms of the disease in cattle vary, but watch for sudden illness, loss of appetite, fever and blood-tinged urine or milk. If your suspect leptospirosis, call your veterinarian immediately. Prompt treatment with antibiotics increases the chances of saving infected animals.

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Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 10, 1952

Heat Lamps Help to Reduce Fall Pig Losses

Heat lamps will help to save baby pigs in cold weather if you use them right.

Frank Andrew, extension farm electric specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says heat lamps, properly installed, provide safe heat for your new-born litters.

Support the lamps at least 18 inches above the litter, Andrew suggests. Use a small piece of chain or baling wire. You can buy safe heat lamp fixtures complete with porcelain socket, chain, metal shield, heat- and moisture-resistant cord and plug.

Either red or white lamps will give satisfactory service, the specialist says. However, red lamps have harder glass, are less likely to be damaged by moisture and have a longer life.

For protection against overloading, do not put more than seven of the 250-watt lamps on one circuit. Protect this circuit with no larger than 20-ampere fuses.

If you hang a lamp low over a pig creep, be sure there is a stout barricade between the lamp and the sow. If you use a lamp over the sow, be sure that it clears the sow's back by at least six inches when she is standing.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 10, 1952

ee 1953 Feed Use and Supply About Equal

Use of total concentrates during the feeding year of 1952-53 ill almost equal the total available supply.

That's the report of the Feed Survey Committee of the American eed Manufacturers association, according to S. W. Terrill, head of the wine division at the Illinois College of Agriculture and Illinois member of the survey committee.

Total supplies of grains and other concentrates available for ivestock and poultry feed in the United States amount to 126 million ons, the report says. That's slightly more than the amount fed during 951-52.

Feed crops varied widely in different regions of the country his year. Corn-belt feed crops were moderately large, but widespread rought in the south and west cut deeply into local feed supplies for 952-53.

The 7 percent larger supply of corn for feed this year than n 1951 is largely offset by much smaller supplies of both grain sorhums and barley and a somewhat smaller supply of oats. There is litle change in the prospective supply of wheat mill-feeds and other lowrotein by-products, according to the survey committee.

The supply of oilseed meals, animal proteins and grain proeins (on an oimeal equivalent basis) for feed this year amounts to 3,690,000 tons, a decrease of 2 percent below the 14,004,000 tons fed n 1951-52.

Livestock numbers show, little change from last year's figres. Dairy cattle numbers will remain about the same. Decreases in ogs, laying hens, turkeys, sheep and horses will be about offset by ncreases in beef cattle, chickens and commerical broilers.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 10, 1952

Reed Canary Grass Does Well in Dry Year

Reed canary grass has been a lifesaver for pasture at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station of the University of Illinois. Dry weather at the southern Illinois station this summer cut supplies of pasture forage to a critically low level.

Eighty acres of overflow bottomland on the station, planted to reed-canary grass, has been carrying 250 head of cows, calves and yearlings for the past three weeks., according to H. A. Cate, extension livestock specialist at the station.

A big advantage of canary grass is the heavy amount of forage it produces. This 80 acres was cut for hay this summer, and in spite of the dry summer it recovered well enough to carry a heavy livestock population for three weeks or more.

Cate says canary grass is recommended for wet, poorly drained areas where other forage crops do not do well. It is an economical way to use an area where you can expect good corn only once in every five to seven years, or in a dry year such as this one has been in southern Illinois.

Ladino clover grows well with canary grass if the grass is mowed or grazed to keep the growth at 15 inches or less. Canary grass grows rank and, if left to grow, will reach a height of four to six feet at maturity. It makes the best hay, pasture or silage at a shorter, immature stage, Cate points out.

Reed canary grass is a little slow in getting established. It is a good idea to include other grasses and legume in the pasture mixture to provide good grazing for the first year or two until the canary grass is well established. It will then make a crop every year, and in dry years it may be a lifesaver for your livestock when other pastures disappear.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 10, 1952

Cattle Trucked Short Distance May Get Shipping Fever

Your cattle may become infected with shipping fever whether they are trucked 10 miles or shipped a thousand. Some cattle get the disease even when they stay at home.

That's the statement of Dr. L. R. Bain, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. He says unvaccinated beef or dairy cattle may come down with shipping fever regardless of how far they are shipped.

Sometimes cattle become infected when they are taken just a few miles to a sale or show, Dr. Bain says. Home-raised cattle have even had shipping fever after they were mixed with infected shipped-in stock. For this reason new stock should be quarantined for at least a month.

The surest protection against shipping fever is to have your veterinarian vaccinate the cattle with bacterin about two weeks before shipment. If this is impossible, they may be treated with serum when they arrive on the farm. Serum usually protects them during the danger period, but it doesn't give 100 percent immunity.

Another thing--even though you keep your new cattle in quarantine, watch your home herd carefully. If signs of sickness appear, call your veterinarian immediately. Prompt treatment usually reduces losses.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 10, 1952

inter Brings Danger of Woodland Fires

Danger of fire in the woods starts with the first frost.

L. B. Culver, extension forester at the Illinois College of griculture, says that's when grass, weeds and leaves lose their sumer's supply of moisture. Dead grass, weeds and leaves bring a fire azard to the woods that lasts until greenup time next spring.

Culver points out that preventing fires from starting is much ore effective and also cheaper than putting a fire out after it starts.. t is especially important that you tell your friends, neighbors and unters to be extra-careful with fires and smoking in your timberlands hen conditions have been as dry as they have been this fall in most reas of Illinois.

Fire can be disastrous to your evergreen plantation or windreak if it gets started there, even though the trees are still green, he pitch in evergreens makes them burn readily. Other young, thinarked trees may be killed outright or permanently scarred by fire. rass fires may not hurt older, thick-barked trees so much, but may till slow their growth considerably by scorching the shallow feeding oots and destroying the mulch that covers and protects them.

It's easy to give your pine plantation protection, the forester says, by plowing and disking a cleared strip of land around the rea of trees. A creek with water in it or a roadway also makes a ood firebreak. It is sometimes a little more difficult to protect our farm woodlands with firebreaks, but the principles are the same.

Burn trash only when the air is calm, and plow a firebreak round your fire as extra insurance that the flames won't spread. Be ure all cigarettes, cigars and other fires are completely out before ou leave them. Best thing to do is grind cigarette and cigar butts nto bare dirt. Remember, with a fire everybody loses.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 10, 1952

Have a Plan to Improve Your Farmstead

Every building you add to your farmstead should fit into a long-time plan.

Start toward your final goal with the next building you put up, suggests Keith Hinchcliff, extension farm buildings specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

The only way you can select the building and put it where it belongs to fit into the surroundings is to have a long-time plan of what you want your farmstead to be like in the future, Hinchcliff says. Seldom are farm families able to relocate their entire farmstead, although in rare instances, where drainage is bad and all buildings are obsolete, that may be desirable. More often, however, the general location in the farm is fixed, and most of the buildings there will have to do for years to come.

It's well worth the trouble to make a layout plan to identify the location of the unchangeable features of your particular farmstead--and to visualize the location of new ones, the specialist suggests. The layout plan should show the well-drained areas, wet spots, desirable trees that you want to save, your water supply, buildings having any useful future in the farmstead and other permanent or semipermanent features.

Then, when you consider locations for new buildings, study your feed routes and centers of farm activity. Where are you going to do your feed processing? Where are you going to feed your livestock?

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 10, 1952

Have a Plan to Improve Your Farmstead - add 1

Where will you keep your machinery? Planning your buildings around a central, open area will facilitate interuse of buildings and avoid gate problems.

If you are planning a new home or are remodeling your present one, plan the space to fit the farmstead. Consider such things as a convenient driveway front entrance, a kitchen view of drive and farmyard, south or east exposure to living areas, south or west exposure for bedrooms, and a garage close to or combined with the house that opens to the south or east. Sometimes relocating the driveway should go along with remodeling the house. This is often true when a driveway entrance must face the north or west.

For help in getting started in the right direction, ask your county farm or home adviser for the leaflet, "Fitting the Farmhouse to the Farmstead." Other helps include grid sheets for plan layout guidance and models. Group farmstead planning circles may be organized with the advice of the farm adviser.

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Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 17, 1952

Don't Overwork Your Dairy Cows

Trying to get a calf from a cow every ten or eleven months is a good way to invite trouble into your dairy herd.

That's the warning of Dr. L. E. Boley of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. He says breeding a cow right after she calves leads, sooner or later, to sterility problems, abortions and weak calves.

"Even vigorous cows can seldom stand early breeding for more than two or three years," Dr. Boley says.

The best way to get the most use out of a cow is to give her a 60- to 90-day breeding rest after each calf. This will also give you a better chance of getting a calf on the first service.

Sometimes it's even advisable to wait more than 90 days before having a cow bred. A great deal depends upon the cow's age, health, feed and care.

Dr. Boley also suggests that you call your veterinarian as soon as you have trouble with difficult breeders. Prompt treatment helps to save cows that might otherwise have to be shipped to market.

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FOR RELEASE NOVEMBER 17, 1952

Treating Window Sills May Lower Costs

Wood treatment has graduated from fence posts to window sills.

Wayne Meek, forest products use specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says that treating tests now under way at the college, if successful, may save farmers and other home builders many dollars.

The windows being tested have been built into a field trial laboratory building recently completed by the Illinois Small Homes Council at the University of Illinois. Window assemblies used in the building including louvers, sills, trim and glass mouldings were pressure treated with a water-repellent solution of the wood preservative pentachlorophenol.

Researchers will keep a careful check on warping, rotting and paint-holding ability of the treated window parts, Meek says. They hope to cut the original cost of window assemblies by using less expensive wood than is now recommended, and then treating it to prevent rot and warping.

By making inexpensive wood durable, it may be possible to eliminate expensive replacement costs altogether, the specialist points out. Heartwood tidewater cypress, which is presently the best wood to use for window assemblies, is both hard to get and costly.

Other pressure-treated ponderosa pine window assemblies, also installed on the University campus, include those in the new men's residence hall and the new Animal Sciences Laboratory building.

These tests have been made by the forestry department, Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Illinois cooperating with the Illinois Small Homes Council and the U. S. Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wisconsin.

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 17, 1952

Lambs Do Well on Ground, Mixed Feeds

Feeder lambs on test this fall at the Dixon Springs Experiment Station of the University of Illinois gained an average of 1/3 pound a day on ground mixed feed.

That system was one of three different methods of feeding being tried in an experiment, according to U. S. Garrigus, head of the sheep division at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

The other two systems included the conventional hand-feeding system and a free-choice, self-fed system.

Three lots of 100 lambs each were tested to compare these feeding systems. One lot was fed a ground mixed ration of 42.5 percent shelled corn, 7.5 percent soybean oil meal and 50 percent hay. Another lot was self-fed these same ingredients free choice, and the third lot was hand-fed 1/5 pound of soybean oil meal and 1/3 pound of shelled corn along with hay free choice. The amount of shelled corn for this lot was increased 1/3 pound each week.

Daily gains were highest in the self-fed, free-choice lot of lambs, which averaged 1/2 pound a day. The lambs on the conventional hand-fed system gained 4/10 pound a day compared with the 1/3 pound a day for the mixed ration. However, the quality of hay ground into the mixture for the second half of the test period was low because of the dry season in southern Illinois. The researchers plan to repeat the test with all high-quality hay.

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High death loss went along with high gains in the self-fed lot. Eleven of those lambs died compared with one lamb in each of the other two lots. Half of the lambs in each lot were vaccinated against enterotoxemia, or overeating disease. Autopsy on the dead lambs indicated that the self-fed lambs died from overeating corn, and not from enterotoxemia.

Lambs were started on the test about the middle of August and completed the experiment about the end of October. Since the lambs fed the mixed ration gained better than the other two lots until poor hay had to be used, a ground mixed ration containing enough high-quality hay may bring good gains with a big saving of labor in the feeding job.

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Get Plans for Pole-Framed Farm Buildings

You might consider pole-framed construction for some of your new farm buildings if you need shelter at low cost.

K. H. Hinchcliff, extension agricultural engineer at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says you can get plans for pole-framed farm buildings from the college in Urbana.

For instance, plans are available for a machine shed 32 feet wide. The gable roof is framed with trusses spaced 9 feet apart, and the roof framing is planned for metal roofing. Side walls can be either metal or wood siding put on vertically.

Or you can get plans for a pole cattle shed 24 feet long with an open front. The gable roof of this building is framed with trusses

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spaced 12 feet apart. Rafters are spaced 2 or 4 feet apart between trusses, depending on the support needed for the roofing material.

Another plan for a loose-housing barn provides bedded area for 22 cows. The barn is 45 feet wide, 90 feet long and has a gable roof. This plan is expansible and includes a separate plan for a milking room. Loose-housing barns for dairy cattle can be planned for almost any practicable size.

You can use pole construction to lower initial cost of farm buildings that are adapted to this type of construction, Hinchcliff says. Pole buildings will last a long time if you use thoroughly treated poles and good building practices.

Pole construction is usually best suited to buildings that do not need a permanent floor, such as machinery storage,beef cattle sheds and loose-housing bedded areas.

One precaution that you need to take, the specialist points out, is to tie pole buildings together carefully to prevent wind damage. There are fewer nailing contacts in them than in the standard frame construction where siding is nailed to studding. You can use metal connectors at the nailing points for siding and roof framing to make your building stronger. To keep the building from getting out of line, set poles from 3 to 5 feet in the ground, depending on length of pole and soil conditions.

Other plans for pole construction cover hay sheds, single cribs and many other types of farm buildings. In addition, many other building plans are available. See your county farm adviser for numbers of these building plans, or write directly to the College of Agriculture, Urbana, for a list of plans.

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RAJ:mi
11/12/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 17, 1952

Who Pays for Land Improvement Costs?

Division of land improvement costs is one of the big problems on rented farms.

J. B. Cunningham, University of Illinois farm management and tenancy specialist, says it is the responsibility of the landlord to furnish a productive farm.

The landlord and previous tenant may have allowed the farm to run down below the level of the better managed farms in the community. If that is so, the landlord may reasonably be expected to furnish most of the limestone, rock phosphate and other basic soil treatments before the present tenant makes major contributions to these costs.

If the tenant shares in the cost of a build-up program, Cunningham says he is entitled to a written guarantee that he will be reimbursed for his undepreciated costs when he leaves the farm.

These improvements would include costs for heavy applications of superphosphate and potash, with residual values, and erosion control structures.

The costs of nitrate and other fertilizers that have little carry-over value are usually shared by landlord and tenant in the same way they share the harvested crop.

More detailed and complete suggestions for handling land improvement costs on rented farms are given in Illinois College of Agriculture Circular 673, which you can get from your farm adviser.

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OG:mi
11/12/52

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 24, 1952

Rotenone Rids Cattle of Grub Menace

Your dairy cows and beef cattle will do better if they're not bothered with cattle grubs this winter and with heel flies next summer.

That's the reminder of Dr. N. D. Levine, animal parasite specialist of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. For best results he suggests treating cattle with rotenone once a month from late December through April.

Grubs can make cattle mighty uncomfortable during the winter, as they bore through the flesh of the cow's back and irritate the hide, Dr. Levine says. And in the summer, as heel flies, they frighten the cattle, causing them to run wildly around the pasture.

If you have a small herd, a good treatment is to dust each animal's back with a 1½ percent rotenone powder and rub it in. Or, if the herd is large, run the cattle one at a time through a runway, and use a high-pressure spray with 7½ pounds of 5 percent rotenone powder in 100 gallons of water.

Dr. Levine says rotenone is relatively inexpensive. The benefits derived from using it will more than compensate for its cost and the time spent in treating the cattle.

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LEA:mi
11/18/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 24, 1952

University Enters Animals in International

The University of Illinois again this year will be one of the largest exhibitors in the 1952 International Livestock Exposition in Chicago the first week in December.

Entries from the University in the beef division will include four Angus, one Hereford and one Polled Shorthorn steer. Sheep entries will include one Hampshire, two Rambouillets, six Shropshire, eight Southdown and seven Suffolk sheep. The sheep division will also enter dressed carcass and market wool classes.

Animals from the University of Illinois College of Agriculture farms have always made a creditable showing at the Chicago exposition and have won many honors in past years. Last year the college exhibited the champion Rambouillet ram and ewe among several other high-ranking winners.

H. G. Russell, extension livestock specialist, and George Dungan, agronomy professor, will be among the judges at this year's show. Russell will judge the purebred Duroc-Jersey swine classes, while Dungan will be one of the judges of corn and soybeans at the International Grain and Hay Show.

Three University judging teams will compete during the International show in Chicago. The livestock judging team will judge on November 29, the meats judging team on December 2 and the poultry judging team on December 2 and 3. A. L. Neumann is coach of the livestock team, B. C. Breidenstein of the meats team and R. C. Eaton of the poultry team.

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RAJ:mi
11/19/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 24, 1952

Ag College Students Have High Grades

Twelve students now enrolled in the University of Illinois College of Agriculture made academic records of 5.0, or straight "A", for the second semester of the year 1951-1952, according to Assistant Dean C. D. Smith, in charge of resident instruction.

Nine agriculture and three home economics students were included in the list. Those in agriculture were Ravonne Dowell, Mason City; Kevin Dale Gorman, Monee; Jesse Harold Keyser, Mt. Erie; Paul Garland Moe, Chicago; Roy Lewis Ostrom, Williamsfield; Winfield L. Samuelson, Geneseo; Carl Eugene Schauble, Pontiac; Merritt William Sprague, Hull; and David Miller Van Doren, Elmhurst.

Students in home economics with a 5.0 academic average for the same period were Carol Ann Krause, Easton; Gene Elaine Stimart, Downers Grove; and Gladys Marion Whynot, Springfield.

Twenty-seven currently enrolled students have earned a cumulative grade point average of 4.5 or above for two semesters or longer, according to Dean Smith. Eighteen of them were enrolled in agriculture and nine in home economics. Those in agriculture are as follows: Dale Keith Colyer, Albion; Fred Mitchell Cooper, Williamsville; Kenneth Paul Dubrovin, Chicago; Robert Grand Fields, North Henderson; Eldon Hoyt Greenwood, Coffeen; Loren Albert Ihnen, Golden; Keith Allen Kahle, Lexington; George Jacob Lewis, Hersman.

Norman Ray Madison, Mazon; Freeman Douglas Marti, Pocahontas; Donald Eugene McCormack, Dundas; James Richard Meyer, Topeka; Edward Richard Schumann, Chicago; Donald Cecil Shreffler, Kankakee; Joseph Albert Stetson, Neponset; John Marlin Stewart, Jacksonville; James Byron Swan, Minonk; and Ryland Edwin Webb, Decatur.

Those in home economics are as follows: Jean Anne Dinsdale, Chicago; Dorothy Anne Figge, Collinsville; Delores Ann Hickman, Plainfield; Harriett Eleanor Hutchings, Mundelein; Bernita Ruth Scheive, Buckley; Betty Lou Shelton, Seymour; Caryl Louise Towsley, Naperville; Donna Roese Vetter, Aledo; and Marilyn Womeldorff, Wheaton.

RAJ:mi
11/19/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 24, 1952

Sheep Breeders Hold Annual Sale December 13

The annual bred Ewe Consignment sale of the Illinois Purebred Sheep Breeders' association has been scheduled for Saturday, December 13, in the Stock Pavilion at the University of Illinois, Urbana. The sale starts at 1 p.m.

Sale manager U. S. Garrigus, head of the sheep division at the Illinois College of Agriculture, reports that 77 ewes representing the eight major breeds of sheep have been consigned to the sale.

As usual, 10 percent discount will be allowed on all ewes purchased by Illinois 4-H and FFA members, Garrigus points out. This is a fine opportunity for future sheep breeders in the state to get a good foundation ewe for the flock.

All entries will be ready for inspection at 10 o'clock in the morning on December 13. A sifting committee will also look over the animals and determine the sale arrangement.

Each consignor to the sale guarantees that the ewes he consigns for sale will be breeders if they are properly handled. If any animal purchased at the sale is not a breeder, the consignor agrees to replace it with another of equal value or he will refund the purchase price.

Anyone wanting to bid on the ewes who cannot be present at the sale may mail bids to H. G. Russell, G. R. Carlisle or W. J. Hampton, 110 Stock Pavilion, Urbana. H. Earl Wright, Mt. Gilead, Ohio, will auctioneer the sale.

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RAJ:mi
11/19/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 24, 1952

Yard Fence More Bother Than It's Worth

Are you tired of painting the yard fence and trimming the grass around it by hand every time you mow the lawn?

Maybe having a yard fence isn't so necessary as you may have thought, says H. R. Kemmerer, University of Illinois farm landscape specialist. Most yard fences were built either to keep poultry and livestock out of the yard or to keep the children in.

Poultry specialists have learned that production is higher when poultry is confined to a poultry pen where better feeding practices can be followed. Improving barn-yard enclosures reduces the problem of livestock roaming about the farmstead.

Many farm families think a fence is needed to keep small children from getting out on the road. Although that may be true, the fence will serve this purpose for only one or two years. As the children grow older they either climb over the fence or learn to open the gate. A simpler and less expensive solution is to construct a temporary fence around part of the lawn for a few years.

Yard fences tend to separate the house from the rest of the farm buildings. Your farmstead will look more attractive if you extend the lawn to join the house with the drive and the rest of the buildings. You can mow a larger lawn in the time you formerly spent painting fences and trimming grass around them by hand.

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DTS:mi
11/19/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 24, 1952

Legumes Can Furnish Nitrogen Needed for 100-Bushel Corn Crop

A good legume crop returned to the soil will take care of the nitrogen needs of a 100-bushel-an-acre crop of corn, states C. M. Linsley, University of Illinois soils specialist.

Legumes, aided by nodule bacteria, can take nitrogen from the air. When the legumes are plowed under, this nitrogen is quickly changed into a form that other crops can use.

An acre of legumes can take 150 pounds or more of nitrogen from the air. If properly returned, this means 150 pounds of nitrogen an acre added to the soil.

Since a 100-bushel corn crop requires about 150 pounds of nitrogen, a heavy legume crop plowed under can take care of these nitrogen requirements.

The nitrogen returned to the soil by one acre of good legumes is equivalent to an application of 450 pounds of ammonium nitrate (33%) or 750 pounds of ammonium sulfate (20%).

Legumes have the additional benefit of adding organic matter, improving soil tilth and reducing erosion.

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DTS:mi
11/18/52

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 1, 1952

5th Sprayer School to Be Held January 15-16

The fifth Illinois Custom Spray Operators' Training School will be held January 15-16 in the Illini Union building at the University of Illinois.

The tentative program has been announced by H. B. Petty, insect control specialist in the Illinois College of Agriculture and Illinois Natural History Survey, and chairman of the program.

Among the topics slated for special emphasis at the two-day school this winter are liquid fertilizers, crop defoliation, brush control, control of weeds in corn, soybean and other fields, and insect pests which seriously affect Illinois livestock and crops.

Petty says the school is open to dealers in spray equipment and supplies, salesmen, manufacturers and others, as well as to sprayers.

Custom spray operators' schools held at the University in previous years have attracted between 200 and 300 sprayers, farmers and others interested in keeping up to date on latest developments in fertilizer, crops defoliation and weed and insect control programs.

For further information about the program, contact H. B. Petty, Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana, Illinois.

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OG:mi
11/25/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 1, 1952

Farm Records Help Steer Farm Business

Running a farm without good farm records in these days of close figuring is like trying to drive a car without a steering wheel, says G. B. Whitman, farm management specialist in the Illinois College of Agriculture.

In urging all Illinois farmers to keep accurate records in 1953, Whitman emphasizes that it's the only way to discover the profitable and money-losing phases of the farm business.

Records tell exactly where the cost dollars went. They show crop yields, livestock production, the sale price of major products and a lot of other valuable information.

By analyzing these facts, a farmer can tell exactly where he is going and can steer his farm business more surely toward more profit.

Whitman says that, while there are several good farm account books on the market, one of the best and most economical you can get is the Illinois Farm Record Book. It's easy to keep and can be used in several ways: for income tax reports, as a credit statement, for records on social security tax payments and for a self-study of the farm business to locate profit leaks. More than 35,000 Illinois farmers are using this record book this year.

Copies of the Illinois Farm Record Book are available at farm advisers' offices at cost of printing and handling.

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OG:mi
11/25/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 1, 1952

No Magic in Urea for Cattle Feed

You don't have to have urea in supplements fed with roughages to your feeder cattle for good performance.

G. R. Carlisle, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says urea is used in supplements only because it is a cheap source of nitrogen. Urea does not contain any magic substances which help livestock use roughage.

Bacteria in the paunch of ruminants, such as cattle and sheep,change the nitrogen in urea into protein which the animal can use, Carlisle points out. Non-ruminants, such as hogs and poultry, cannot use urea in the same way as cattle and sheep.

Urea contains about 6 to 7 times as much nitrogen or potential protein as cottonseed meal. But urea does not contain anything except nitrogen which is of value to the animal. Cottonseed meal, soybean meal and other natural protein sources are also good sources of other nutrients animals need. For that reason, you have to add 6 to 7 pounds of corn to 1 pound of urea to make the feeding value equal to that of 6 to 7 pounds of cottonseed meal.

Carlisle also points out that urea is unpalatable and poisonous when it is fed in too large amounts. It must always be thoroughly mixed with the rest of the ration and in correct amounts to be safe to feed.

Another disadvantage of urea at the present time is that it is not available to farmers, but can be purchased only by manufacturers for use in mixed feeds.

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RAJ:mi
11/25/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 1, 1952

Nearly One-Half of Illinois Soils Deficient in Limestone

Almost half of the soils in Illinois are low in limestone, reports A. U. Thor, University of Illinois soils specialist.

Every county in Illinois has some soil that is deficient in limestone. Soil testing records for 1951 indicate that the deficiency ranged from a low of 11 percent in one county to a high of 86 percent in another.

Of a total of 26,208,710 acres of crop land and plowable pasture, an estimated 10,888,452 acres lacked from 2 to 5 tons of limestone per acre. To correct this 43 percent deficiency, it would take 28,238,002 tons of limestone.

Although supplies of nitrogen, phosphorus and potash are limited, there seems to be no shortage of lime, Thor points out.

In keeping with the recently launched drive by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the land-grant colleges to get more efficient use of fertilizers and lime, farmers are urged to have their soil tested and apply recommended amounts of limestone.

Thor reports that 80 counties now have accredited farm bureau soil testing laboratories. In addition, there are 18 commercially operated accredited soil testing laboratories, plus the central University laboratory located at 218 Davenport hall, Urbana, Illinois.

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DTS:mi
11/25/52

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8, 1952

Hypoglycemia Causes Losses in Baby Pigs

Newly born pigs should be checked frequently at farrowing time to be sure they have an adequate milk supply, according to Dr. Jesse Sampson, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

Hypoglycemia resulting from starvation sometimes causes the death of entire litters of baby pigs, Dr. Sampson says. It occurs when sows fail to produce milk or cease production soon after farrowing, or when pigs stop nursing because of scours or digestive upsets.

Research at the College of Veterinary Medicine shows that starvation for only one or two days can cause death from hypoglycemia in newly born pigs. Hypoglycemia occurs when starvation seriously reduces the pigs' blood sugar supply.

To prevent hypoglycemia, check the sows to be sure they are producing an adequate milk supply. And keep the pigs from chilling in cold weather by using pig brooders. Cold pigs are more likely to have hypoglycemia than warm ones.

Another safeguard is to call your veterinarian if your pigs aren't doing well. Prompt diagnosis and treatment will help to reduce pig losses.

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LEA:bb
12-3-52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8, 1952

Donald McCormack Awarded Chicago Farmers' Scholarship

Donald E. McCormack, 22-year-old University of Illinois senior from Dundas, Illinois, has been awarded the $500 Chicago Farmers' Scholarship, according to C. D. Smith, assistant dean in charge of resident instruction in the College of Agriculture.

McCormack, who is married and the father of two boys, graduated from the Newton Community High School in 1948 as valedictorian of his class. While in high school he was active in F.F.A., sports, and other activities.

McCormack says, "If a student wants a college education badly enough, lack of financial help need not keep him from his goal." As a student majoring in soil conservation in the College of Agriculture, McCormack has supported himself and his family and has won academic honors each year. He is a member of Alpha Zeta, an agricultural honorary fraternity.

As a full-time student, McCormack has worked an average of 35 hours per week while earning near-perfect grades. He has worked as a calculating machine operator for the Farm Bureau Farm Management Service, as a pinsetter at the Illini Union Bowling Alley and as a student assistant in agronomy plant breeding research.

During the past two summers, McCormack has been employed as a student trainee in the Soil Conservation Service. Following graduation in June, he plans to become a soil scientist in the Soil Conservation Service.

McCormack is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald McCormack, who operate a farm near Dundas.

OFG:bb
12-3-52

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8, 1952

Sheep Make Good Users of Farm Roughage

One of the best ways to make profitable use of the roughage you produce on your farm is through sheep.

U. S. Garrigus, head of the sheep division at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says the Illinois farm flock is basically a sound farm enterprise.

Farm Bureau Farm Management Service records show that sheep compare favorably with swine and beef in dollars returned for each $100 worth of feed fed.

Even though the sheep enterprise may not have been too good in 1952, this is no time to try to dispose of a flock that fits into a sound farm plan, Garrigus believes.

One big advantage of the sheep business to Illinois farmers is that they are already producing most of the feed their sheep need. Excess roughages produced in good land use programs have a relatively low market value if sold off the farm. However, sheep can convert these roughages into valuable animal products and at the same time leave most of the fertility value in the soil.

Labor and grazing problems seem to be limiting the expansion of sheep production in the western states. On January 1, 1952, total sheep numbers in the United States were up only 4 percent over 1951. At the same time, sheep numbers in Illinois were up 25 percent over 1951.

Automatic systems of grinding feed for self-feeding, improved drugs to control disease and parasites and increased productivity of breeding stock all mean a chance for more profits from sheep. But efficient sheep production will still call for good management and wool-handling practices, Garrigus says.

RAJ:bb
12-3-52

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8, 1952

Count Your Chicks Before They Hatch

There are more than enough advantages to buying chicks early to easily outweigh the disadvantages--if you really want to make money on layers and are willing to make the changes.

S. F. Ridlen, poultry specialist in the Illinois College of Agriculture, stresses the value of early planning and including early delivery of chicks in your plans this year.

Fall eggs are worth 35 to 50 percent more than spring eggs, Ridlen points out. Most Illinois chickens are started in April or later. That's too late to have pullets in production while prices are high. Producers who have recognized this situation have geared their production to the last six months of the year.

Ridlen advises ordering chicks now for delivery in January or February. It takes six to seven months for them to reach a good rate of lay and good egg size.

The most frequent objection to early chicks is the additional cost for fuel. But actually early chicks don't require much more fuel than later ones, and one extra egg from each hen in the fall will offset this increase in cost.

Early chicks have several other advantages too: They usually grow faster than late-hatched chicks, and they are troubled less by diseases and parasites. Most of the brooding work is over before field work starts, and the males are ready for market before the bulk of the farm-raised fryers. Also, ordering chicks early allows you to shop around and choose a good, reliable breeder whose chicks grow and lay at a high rate.

OG:bb
12-3-52

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8, 1952

Phosphate Outranks Limestone and Potash Needs in Illinois Soils

More Illinois land is deficient in phosphate than in either limestone or potash, report A. U. Thor and W. J. Armon, soils specialists at the University of Illinois.

Soil testing records for 1951 indicate that 68 percent of Illinois soils lacked adequate phosphate, 43 percent lacked lime and 40 percent lacked potash. The phosphate deficiency represents almost 17 million acres.

To correct this deficiency, it would take over 3 million tons of 0-20-0 superphosphate for a four-year rotation, or nearly 10 million tons of rock phosphate for an 8-10 year period.

In order to determine phosphate, and other plant food needs, Thor and Armon recommend that each farmer use the services offered by his accredited county soils laboratory or the central laboratory located at 218 Davenport Hall, Urbana, in getting tests made. There are now 96 accredited soil testing laboratories in Illinois, in addition to the central laboratory at Urbana.

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DTS:bb
12-3-52

for weeklies

Farm News

ERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15, 1952

Dehorn Feeder Cattle to Increase Value

It's a good idea to dehorn good to choice calves and yearlings that will be on the farm until next summer or fall.

Fat slaughter cattle without horns generally sell better and are a better buy for the meat packer than cattle with horns, says Harry G. Russell, extension livestock specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

Hornless or dehorned cattle need less shed space and less room at the feed bunk than horned cattle, Russell points out. They are also easier to load and ship. They will not be discounted at the market for possible carcass bruises and hide damage for which horned cattle are always discounted.

It is easy and relatively safe to dehorn your calves now, provided you pick a day to do it that isn't too cold and blustery. Russell suggests that you keep your newly dehorned calves confined, if you can, in bad weather until the scar heals over.

Until you are experienced in dehorning cattle, you should have the help of a veterinarian to be sure the dehorning is done right and there is not too much loss of blood.

RAJ:bb
12-9-52

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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15, 1952

Hens Keep Record of Their Production

Your hens are good record keepers.

They show by the amount of yellow color in their bodies how many eggs they are producing, says Sam Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

If you read these records right, Ridlen points out, you can tell which of your hens are not earning their feed bill by producing eggs.

Here's how to read the signs:

Yellow color leaves a hen's skin in the following order. After each part is the time needed to bleach that part completely after egg production starts.

Vent, 7-10 days; eye ring, 2 weeks; earlobe (if white), 3 weeks; beak, 6 weeks; front of legs, 18 weeks; heel of shanks, 20-24 weeks. Pigment leaves the back of the hocks and the top of the toes last.

For example, if your pullets have been in production for 12 weeks, all of the yellow color should be gone from the hen's skin except on the legs. And even the legs should have lost some of their color.

Cull the birds that show lots of yellow on their bodies. Culling is a year-round job. When hens go out of production, remove them from your flock to keep your feed costs down and average egg production at a high level.

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RAJ:mi
12/10/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15, 1952

4-H Memorial Camp Trees Make Fast Growth

Some varieties of pine have averaged 8 feet of growth in the five years they have been planted at the State 4-H Memorial Camp near Monticello.

In the same time, Virginia pines have averaged 7.5 feet of growth, according to J. J. Jokela, forester at the Illinois College of Agriculture. Some silver maples planted in the area have reached 12 to 15 feet in six years.

Importance of these growth rates, Jokela says, is that they show that it doesn't take a lifetime to grow a forest in central Illinois. Plantations like these will fulfill most of the purposes for which they were planted in 10 years or so.

The 36-acre forest plantation on the north side of the 250-acre 4-H camp area is unmatched in the midwest from the standpoint of different species and size of plantings. Ten conifer and 10 hardwood species, many not native to this area, were planted in two-acre blocks.

Since most of the camp area was treeless, primary purpose of the plantation was to provide primitive camping, hiking and nature study opportunities for 4-H campers, Jokela points out.

The forest provides permanent cover on the lake watershed to help prevent silting-in of the lake. One of the finest demonstrations of tree planting in Illinois, more than 200 men and boys actively took part in planting the forest. First year survivals of better than 90 percent show the good job of planting that was done.

Planting of the forest was supervised by the forestry department of the College of Agriculture. Foresters have made annual measurements of growth and survival rates and will continue to use the forest for research in the numerous species planted.

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RAJ:mi
12/10/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15, 1952

Buy and Use Safe Christmas Tree Lights

Short circuits resulting from broken bulbs or worn insulation in Christmas tree lights are a serious fire hazard during the holiday season.

Frank Andrew, extension farm electricity specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, suggests that you check your tree lights carefully before you put them on the tree this year.

Replace worn or frayed cords before they can cause damage. Be sure that the plug is securely fastened to the cord, that insulation extends down into the plug and that the prongs are not loose. Replace broken plugs. If the cord is worn where it joins the plug, cut the wires where there is full insulation and refasten the plug there.

If you are buying new Christmas tree lights, you can now get them with individual fuses built into the plug. The advantage of this safety feature is that a short circuit in the bulbs or wiring will blow out the fuse on the string of lights and will not interfere with the household circuit.

Even with all safety precautions, tree lights are still potentially dangerous as long as they are on, Andrew cautions. Never leave the house with the Christmas tree lights burning nor leave them on all night while you are asleep.

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RAJ:mi
12/10/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15, 1952

Front Door to Farmhouse Says "Hello"

First "hello" of welcome to visitors to your farm home comes from the front entrance.

It's likely to offer only an evasive, half-hearted greeting, though, if it's located where visitors seldom approach the house, says Keith H. Hinchcliff, extension farm housing specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture.

You may have just about forgotten that you have a front door if it is located so far from the kitchen that it isn't handy for you either.

Hinchcliff says a North Central Regional survey shows that 65 percent of farm visitors use the back door and only 25 percent ever bother to go to the front door. The other 10 percent use any available side doors.

If you have an old front porch and entrance on your farm home that isn't used enough to be worth keeping up, the answer may be to relocate it on the side of the house toward the drive. Sometimes it is possible to enclose an old porch and make another room out of it, but a porch needs to be wider than the usual 8 feet to have good room proportions. Or, you might be able to add the space to your present living room.

When you plan your new front door, remember that an entryway and wraps closet are both a convenience and a protection against the weather. A concrete, linoleum or tile floor in the entry will be a big labor-saver.

You can put in a window where your old door came out. A new "strip" window will keep out the public eye better than a picture window and may improve the appearance of the house. Landscaping will help direct visitors' attention to the new entrance.

A display of "before and after" front farmhouse entrances is being planned for Farm and Home Week. See your county farm or home adviser if you have something to enter.

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RAJ:mi
12/10/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15, 1952

Milk Production Suffers if Cow's Teeth Need Attention

If a cow seems in pain when she eats or if she laps cold water with her tongue, have a veterinarian check her mouth for injuries or bad teeth.

That's the suggestion of Dr. L. R. Bain, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

It's not unusual for cows to have damaged or decayed teeth, but often they're overlooked, Dr. Bain says. The trouble is most noticeable during winter, when a cow may lap the cold water with her tongue in order to keep it away from the sensitive tooth.

The usual treatment for cows' defective teeth is extraction. If this isn't done, milk production may be seriously reduced because of decreased water consumption.

Occasionally injuries or sores in cows' mouths also lead to trouble, Dr. Bain states. An Illinois dairyman called his veterinarian when a cow appeared to go off feed. Examination showed a piece of wire lodged in the membrane of the cow's mouth. Removal of the wire was followed by recovery and return to full milk production.

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LEA:mi
12/10/52

for weeklies

Farm News

VERSITY OF ILLINOIS · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · EXTENSION SERVICE

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 22, 1952

Ventilate Chicken Houses in Winter Weather

Chickens allowed to become conditioned to gradually colder weather will stand the winter far better than chickens cooped up in tightly closed houses.

Sam F. Ridlen, extension poultry specialist at the Illinois College of Agriculture, says chickens in properly ventilated houses are thriftier, less susceptible to respiratory diseases and maintain a higher production level than birds in poorly ventilated houses.

Many flock owners make the mistake of closing their hen houses up tight when cold weather comes, Ridlen says, because they are afraid their chickens will get cold. It is more important that the flock get proper ventilation.

Keep the back and sides of the house tightly closed, with the open windows facing south if possible. Keep some south windows open all the time. Don't worry about the hens. They'll keep warm.

Proper ventilation helps keep litter dry and inside moisture low. Dry litter and low moisture aid in producing more clean eggs and a healthier flock.

During extreme cold or snowy weather, you can cover the open windows with burlap. It will prevent snow blowing into the house and at the same time will let fresh air enter for proper circulation.

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RAJ:mi
12/16/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 22, 1952

Sign Up Now for Farm Management Radio Short Course

Thousands of farmers will be able to take an 8-week course in farm management at the University of Illinois this January and February without leaving their farms.

In a new feature of this winter's Short Course in Agriculture program, M. L. Mosher's course in farm management will be broadcast as a radio lecture series starting January 5.

M. J. Scott, supervisor of short courses in the College of Agriculture, has announced that the program will be carried by University of Illinois station WILL (580 kc) from 1:30 to 2:00 p.m., Monday and Tuesdays.

Mosher, well-known emeritus professor of farm management, is currently teaching the course for students on the campus as part of the 1952-53 Winter Short Course program. His lectures are being tape recorded for presentation to the radio class.

All listeners in the WILL coverage area are invited to "enroll" by mail. Upon request they will receive the same mimeographed materials supplied to class members taking the course on the campus, take a final examination by mail and receive recognition for taking the course.

To sign up for the 1953 Farm Management Radio Short Course, send a card or letter with your name and address to M. J. Scott, supervisor of short courses, University of Illinois College of Agriculture, Urbana. You will receive all materials and information necessary to participate in the course.

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12/16/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 22, 1952

Christmas Trees Make Good Illinois Farm Crop

If you have some odd acres on your farm that don't fit into your general farming plan, how about raising some Christmas trees?

More than two million Christmas trees will pass through Illinois markets this year, says Ralph Lorenz, forester at the Illinois College of Agriculture. While most of these trees will come from other states and Canada, there is no reason why most of the annual Christmas tree needs couldn't come from Illinois.

About 20,000 acres would be needed to put Christmas tree production on a sustained basis to fill the total need in this state, Lorenz figures. It should be easy to find the 20,000 acres out of the three million acres in the state which is better suited to growing trees than to any other purpose.

You'll be able to find about a dozen different varieties of trees for sale in Illinois this year. Balsam and Douglas fir and black spruce make up about 90 percent of all those sales. Others include red, white, jack, Scotch and Virginia pine and Norway and white spruce. All of these varieties except balsam fir and black spruce will grow well in Illinois.

You'll need 2,722 trees an acre with the Christmas trees in your plantation spaced 4 feet apart in 4-foot rows. Cut back volunteer hardwood growth as it appears and cut tall weeds so that the growing trees will develop a good shape. If you leave your trees to nature, as many as half of them may not be salable. A little simple hand pruning would make 25 percent more salable.

Red, white, jack and Scotch pine will do well on the sand lands of central and northern Illinois. Douglas fir and Norway spruce will need better soil. Ask your county farm adviser for a price list of trees available from state nurseries.

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RAJ:mi
12/17/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 22, 1952

Plan Now for Next Spring's Windbreak

Planning next spring's windbreak planting is one of the jobs you can do when winter slows down your other farm work.

Draw a plan of your farmstead and building locations, suggests G. R. Cunningham, extension forester at the Illinois College of Agriculture. Locate the best place for the windbreak, figure weather you'll need to change any fences and finally stake out the corners of the windbreak or set posts.

Then next spring all you'll have to do is set out the trees and stretch the fence.

Planning your windbreak now will also tell you how many trees you are going to need. If you order early in the year, you'll have a much better chance of getting the kinds, sizes and numbers of trees that you want.

Before you start planning your own windbreak, it might be a good idea to visit some other farms in your county or area where windbreaks have been planted. See what tree varieties these farmers have and where their windbreaks are located and get any other suggestions they might have.

Cunningham points out that a good windbreak increases your farm's value by providing winter comfort, year-round beauty and lower feed and fuel costs.

For more information ask your county farm adviser for a copy of Circular 38, "Windbreaks for Illinois Farmsteads" and a copy of the latest price list of trees.

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RAJ:mi
12/16/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 22, 1952

Keep Constant Check For Electrical Hazards

It takes only one defective electrical connection to endanger your whole house.

Even the safest wiring system is no protection if you do a poor job of putting in a new installation or do a makeshift repair job, says John W. Matthews, executive secretary of the Illinois Rural Safety Council.

The Council recommends that electrical wiring and repairs be checked by a qualified electrician to be sure they are properly installed.

Matthews suggests that you check outside wiring frequently for broken insulators, frayed insulation and loose or sagging wires that might contact trees. Inside the house, you need to watch for defective outlets or switches, loose joints at junctions and damaged insulation or worn fixtures.

When you find an appliance cord that is broken or frayed, replace or repair it right away. Buy high quality and the right type of replacement cords or plugs. Use cords with asbestos insulation for heating appliances and heavy rubber-jacketed cords for motor-operated equipment.

Protect ordinary household circuits with 15-ampere fuses. When a fuse "blows," something is wrong. There is too much load on the circuit or a short circuit somewhere. Find and remove the cause of the trouble before you put in a new fuse, and then use the right size.

Always disconnect the current before you try any electrical repairs.

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RAJ:mi
12/16/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 22, 1952

Watch Feeder Calves for Coccidiosis

Crowding beef calves into small lots or pastures can lead to serious trouble from coccidiosis, according to Dr. N. D. Levine of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

Beef calves often get by without serious trouble with coccidiosis while they are on the range where they have plenty of room, Dr. Levine says. But feedlots and small pastures may become quickly contaminated, and cattle on them may become severely infected.

The cause of coccidiosis is a tiny parasite similar to the one that infects chickens. However, cattle can't get the disease from chickens, and chickens can't get it from cattle.

To prevent trouble, clean the lots as often as possible, use feed and water containers that are elevated and designed to prevent contamination, and avoid overstocking lots and pastures. Coccidiosis is usually spread by dirty feed or water.

Symptoms of coccidiosis in calves include weakness, bloody diarrhea and loss of weight. In addition, the calf will have a rough hair coat, drooping ears and sunken eyes.

Prompt diagnosis is important, Dr. Levine says. Herd treatment by a veterinarian will protect the rest of the calves and may help animals that are already showing symptoms.

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for weeklies

Farm News

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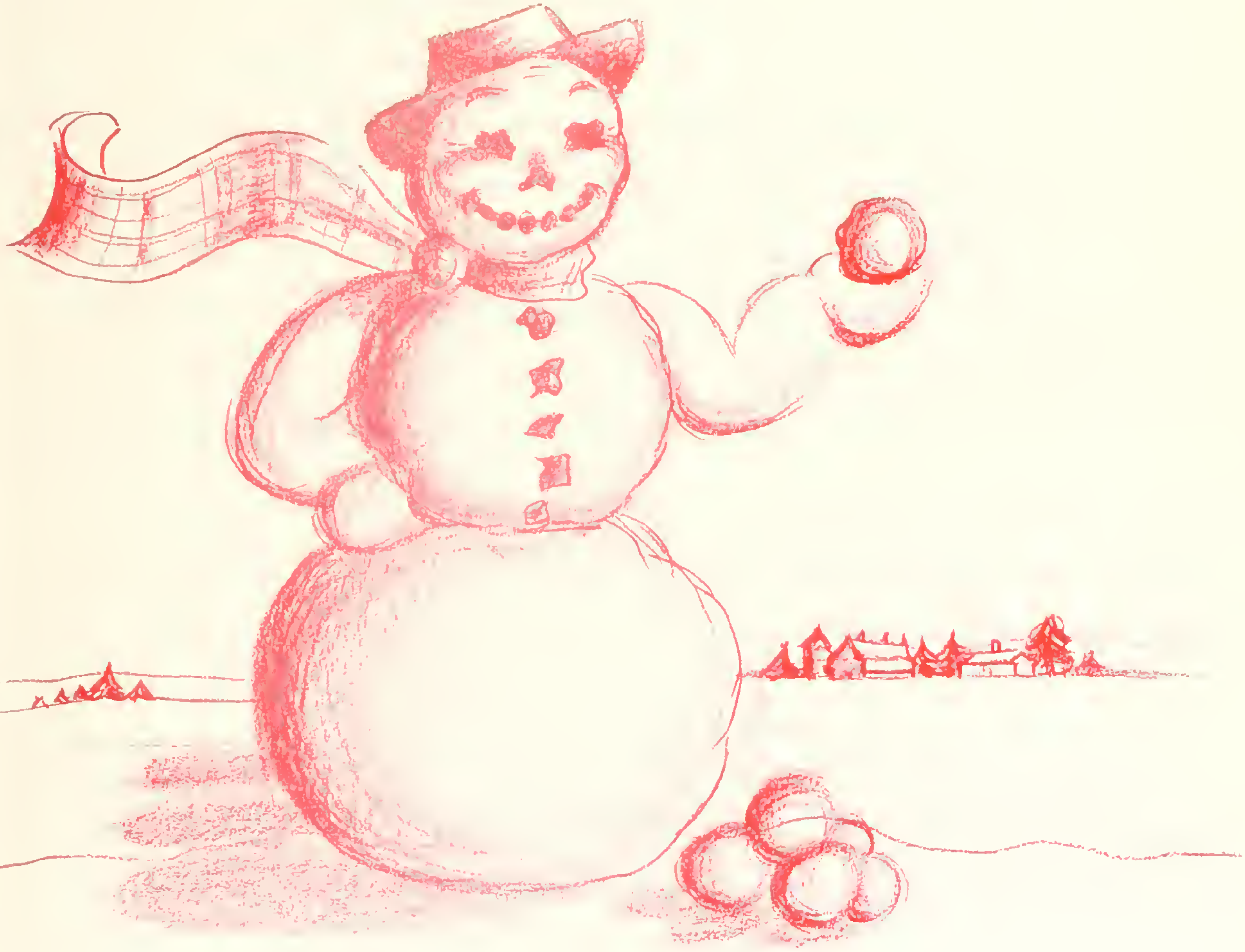

Merry Christmas

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 29, 1952

Sprayer Army to Map Insect Strategy

Strategy for the 1953 campaign against farm insect enemies in Illinois will be a top order of the day January 15-16 in the Illini Union building headquarters at the University of Illinois.

H. B. Petty, commander of the 5th Custom Spray Operators' Training School operations, has announced that most of the morning session on January 15 will be devoted to counterattack measures for the expected spring and summer insect offensives. An entomologist in the Illinois College of Agriculture and Illinois Natural History Survey, Petty is chairman of the training school program.

Main targets of the discussions will be flies, spittlebugs, corn borers, corn earworms, white grubs, chinch bugs, grasshoppers, and livestock insects in general.

Strategists who will analyze the situation and map out control plans include specialists from the Illinois College of Agriculture and the Illinois Natural History Survey, program sponsors, and E. S. Raun, Iowa State College entomologist.

Our insect enemies are ruthless in their tactics, Petty warns, and if unchecked could seriously affect our agricultural economy. Thus the general staff plans to give no quarter in control recommendations.

Most of the enemies' invasions have been well scouted in past seasons, and effective measures for stopping their advances will be reviewed. Plans for suprising them with new weapons will also be revealed.

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Sprayer Army - add 1

Volunteers invited to enlist in the allied forces meeting January 15-16 include all custom spray operators, spray materials and equipment manufacturers, dealers and salesmen, farm managers, farmers and others interested in spray operations. Other topics to be highlighted during the 2-day negotiations include brush and weed control, liquid fertilizers and crop defoliation.

Petty reports that while assignments in the 1953 insect campaign may involve night duty and air strikes, there has been no directive authorizing medals for spray operators who successfully carry out their missions. The sole reward will be better crop and livestock production--a fitting reward to everyone involved.

OG:mi -30-

Older Cattle Carry Parasites

In a survey made in the state of Washington, specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture found that all types of cattle harbor injurious parasites. They surveyed 70 herds, last spring, including beef, range, and dairy cattle.

The most important finding of the survey was that parasites were present in older cattle, which serve as sources of infection for the calves. The calves have neither the resistance to acquiring parasites, nor the hardiness to cope with them, that older cattle have.

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12/23/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 29, 1952

New Oat Varieties Available

New oat varieties, which combine resistance to races 45 and 57 of crown rust and desirable characteristics found in varieties such as Clinton, are being made available to Illinois growers, reports J. W. Pendleton, University of Illinois agronomist.

Almost all the widely grown varieties in Illinois at present have Bond in their parentage.

Bond provides these varieties with resistance to all races of crown rust found in the corn belt in 1946. However, in recent years, races 45, 57 and others have invaded this area and have caused considerable damage in some parts of the state. In 1950, the average loss in grain yield from this disease was estimated at 10 percent.

Plant breeders have found varieties resistant to these new races, but such varieties were generally lacking in other desirable characteristics. An improvement program involving crosses between these resistant types and desirable varieties such as Clinton has been vigorously pursued and some very promising material appears on the horizon for oat growers, Pendleton reports.

Mo. 0-205 is a promising new variety carrying resistance to race 45 of crown rust which should be available to some growers in 1953. The variety is also resistant to smut, Victoria blight and races 2 and 7 of stem rust. In limited tests in Illinois, it shows high yield potential and excellent test weight. However, on soils of high fertility, the variety will not stand as well as Clinton.

LaSalle, a new Illinois variety selected from a cross of Marion and Clinton, will probably not be widely available before 1954 as a hail storm destroyed the primary seed increase field in 1951. Its outstanding characteristics are earliness and high yields.

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12/23/52

FOR RELEASE WEEK OF DECEMBER 29, 1952

Skimping on Rations Can Cause Trouble in Beef, Dairy Cows

Skimping on rations for your beef and dairy cows can lead to plenty of trouble around calving time.

Dr. C. K. Whitehair of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine says undernourished cows are usually weak, thin and unthrifty. But undernourished as they are, if their ration is improperly balanced, they may not have much appetite for it. These cows often become the "downer cows" of the herd.

A cow's need for an adequate, well-balanced ration increases greatly during the last two months of pregnancy and during early lactation. Unless she is adequately fed, she can't meet the demands of pregnancy, calving and milk production. As a result, ketosis, digestive upsets, bacterial infections and death may occur.

The cattle most likely to have nutritional diseases are those fed mainly on medium to poor quality roughage. To prevent trouble, see that the ration includes protein, some easily digested feed such as corn or molasses and minerals, especially phosphorus and cobalt.

Dr. Whitehair adds that a calcium deficiency seldom occurs in mature cattle unless they are on full-feed on a ration which is high in concentrates and low in good quality roughage.

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